

Kyprianou lauds U.N. resolution

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou Saturday praised a Security Council resolution on Cyprus passed Friday night as the strongest and most advanced that the world body had adopted on the question. Approved by 13 votes to one (Pakistan) with the United States abstaining, the 15-member council again condemned the Turkish-Cypriots' proclamation last November of an independent state in the northern part of the island (See related story on page 2). Mr. Kyprianou said in a statement that despite difficulties that arose during the preliminary debate, the resolution "sends the proper message to the Turkish side and, I would say, to all sides as well." The Greek-Cypriot leader met for 40 minutes Saturday with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, whose good offices mission in the long-standing dispute between Greek and Turkish Cypriots was re-affirmed in the council resolution.

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Dutch premier arrives in Riyadh

RIYADH (AP) — Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers arrived Saturday for talks with Saudi Arabian King Fahd designed to boost co-operation between the two countries, mainly in the economic field. It is the first visit to the kingdom by a prime minister of Holland since official diplomatic relations were established in 1930. Mr. Lubbers, accompanied by his Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek, was to hold the official round of talks with the Saudi monarch later on Saturday.

Cairo confirms village air crash

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's defence minister, Field Marshal Mohamed Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala, confirmed Saturday that an Egyptian air force jet crashed into a western desert village earlier this week. Speaking to reporters at manoeuvres of the Egyptian Third Field Army near the city of Suez, Field Marshal Abu Ghazala said the armed forces would rebuild houses destroyed by the crash and compensate families of the dead and injured. He did not give the number of casualties, but residents of Ezbet Beni Salama, 130 kilometres from Cairo, told Reuters Friday that 19 persons had died.

Saudi minister takes B.A. to court

WASHINGTON (R) — A Saudi Arabian cabinet minister, saying he was one of 600 food poisoning victims on British Airways flights, has filed a multi-million dollar damage suit on behalf of himself and other passengers. The action filed against the airline in U.S. federal court by Saudi Arabia's deputy minister of commerce, Abdul Rahman Al Zamil, asked unspecified compensatory damages as well as \$10 million punitive damages for each injured passenger. British Airways said it had traced the illnesses to an aspic glaze used on hors d'oeuvres.

Ceausescu ends Syrian visit

DAMASCUS (AP) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu ended a two-day visit to Syria with a send-off from Damascus airport by President Hafez Al Assad and a high-level Syrian delegation. The leader from the Communist bloc nation departed after the Syrian News Agency said Mr. Assad and Mrs. Ceausescu "expressed keenness on expanding their co-operation for mutual benefit" but gave no details on the outcome of their talks.

Ulster gunmen kill reservist

LONDONDERRY, Northern Ireland (AP) — Gunmen shot dead a part-time soldier of the Ulster Defence Regiment (UDR) on a border farm Saturday and two policemen driving to investigate the slaying were wounded in a second ambush, police reported. A police spokesman, Sgt. Winston Winters, said the UDR man was gunned down while he was feeding cattle in an outbuilding on his farm at Lisnare in County Tyrone, close to the border with the Irish Republic.

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Israeli 'liaison office' may face closure Beirut cabinet split over control of army

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanon's new national unity cabinet was reported to be seriously divided over the future of the fragmented national army as the frontlines in and around Beirut fell quiet again Saturday.

Fighting which broke out Friday evening in the southern suburbs and the nearby mountains subsided overnight and did not resume in the morning.

Beirut press and radio reports said the new cabinet, meeting Friday at President Amin Gemayel's summer palace in the village of Bekfaya, ran into trouble when it broached the thorny question of re-organising the army.

Troops loyal to President Gemayel have been fighting opposition militias since last September. Other units have stayed out of the conflict or are based in areas under Syrian and Israeli control.

The dispute in the new cabinet, formed by Prime Minister Rashid Karami last month in the hope of bringing nine years of civil war to an end, centred on who should have operational control of the armed forces.

The Muslim members of the cabinet, including conservative Defence Minister Adel Ossseiran, proposed setting up a six-man provisional command drawn from each of the country's main sects, newspapers said.

The rightist Christian ministers objected, saying that until sectarianism was eliminated throughout the country's political system the command should be subject to "a formula which reassures the Christians," the papers added.

The army commander is traditionally a Maronite Christian.

The present holder of the title, General Ibrahim Tamouss, offered to resign earlier this year to help bring about a reconciliation between Mr. Gemayel and his opponents.

"The Voice of the Mountain", the radio station of the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), accused the rightist ministers of trying to retain control over the army for their own use.

Regular troops loyal to Mr. Gemayel have been fighting alongside rightist militias in and around Beirut. In the eyes of mainly Muslim opposition the two are almost indistinguishable.

The dispute over the army has held up plans to re-open Beirut's International Airport, closed since heavy fighting broke out in early February.

The airport lies in west Beirut under the control of neutral Muslim-dominated army units and can only open if the rightist groups in the east accept these troops as an integral part of the army.

Meanwhile, Shi'ite Muslim leader Nabih Berri hinted Saturday that the government was moving to close down Israel's "liaison office" in the Christian suburb of Dbaye east of Beirut.

The half-Christian, half-Muslim cabinet has asked Mr. Karami and Finance Minister Camille Chamoun to prepare a report on the status of the Israeli office "so the government can

take a decision," Mr. Berri told a news conference.

He did not say when he expected completion of the report by Mr. Karami and Mr. Chamoun, a Maronite Catholic and former president who heads the nation's principal mainly Christian rightist coalition, the "Lebanese Front."

Dbaye, where the Israeli "liaison office" is located, is controlled by the "Lebanese Forces," the militia of the rightist front. The militia's commander, Fadi Frem, has publicly threatened to "resist the government on the ground" if it tried to close the office.

The militia has received arms and training assistance from Israel and has plans for a new "information office" in occupied Jerusalem.

A cabinet effort to close the Dbaye office would follow several unsuccessful attempts by President Gemayel to close the office following Lebanon's decision last March to cancel the 1983 troop withdrawal pact with Israel.

Mr. Berri also announced at his news conference that all appointments in the ministries he heads in the new cabinet would be made on the basis of qualifications, regardless of an applicant's religious affiliation.

Mr. Berri serves as minister of justice, electricity and water resources as well as state minister for Israeli-occupied southern Lebanon and reconstruction.

The cabinet is scheduled to meet again in a third full session on Wednesday to try to work out a compromise on the army re-organisation. It has so far held two working sessions under Mr. Gemayel since its formation two weeks ago.

Sharaf back from Cairo

AMMAN (J.T.) — Information Minister Laila Sharaf returned to Amman Saturday at the end of a visit to Cairo where she attended a conference of information ministers from non-aligned nations.

In a statement upon return to Amman Mrs. Sharaf said that the main aim of her visit to Cairo was to take part in the conference, but she also held talks with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali and other senior officials and she exchanged views on the current Arab situation and international issues in the light of the forthcoming U.S. presidential elections.

The issue of occupied Jerusalem and the need for Arab states to work on all fronts to liberate the Holy City as well as efforts by His Majesty King Hussein to reach a joint Arab strategy in the face of challenges facing the Arab World were discussed at the meetings, Mrs. Sharaf said.

Asked if she raised the issue of restoring Jordanian-Egyptian diplomatic relations, the minister said that this subject was not discussed, but, she said, since Mr. Mubarak became president the two countries have been pursuing a line of rapprochement.

The non-aligned conference has succeeded in reducing by 50 per cent the charges imposed on communications for relaying information among non-aligned nations, the minister said.

The conference was attended by information ministers or delegates from Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Morocco, Mexico, Tunisia, Cuba, North Korea, Vietnam, Yugoslavia and Jordan.

Islamic group says it planted Nicosia bomb

DAMASCUS (R) — A group calling itself the "Islamic Action Organisation" claimed responsibility for a bomb blast in Nicosia early Saturday which it said was aimed at the Iraqi Airways office.

An anonymous caller, who said he was from the group, told an international news agency by phone: "My organisation is responsible for the Nicosia explosion today. The Iraqi Airways office was our target this time."

In Nicosia, Cypriot police said they were seeking two men for questioning in connection with the blast, in which four people were slightly injured.

Police said they were satisfied that the bomb, placed under a car near the airline office, had been aimed at the building. The blast scorched walls and broke windows at the airline office and scattered debris over a large area.

The caller in Damascus said the airline office acted as the Iraqi embassy in the Cypriot capital. He said it accommodated "the Iraqi military liaison bureau in charge of shipping arms supplies purchased in Europe to Baghdad via Nicosia airport."

The caller said the office also accommodated an Iraqi military

Israelis kill two Palestinians

AMMAN (Petra) — Two young Palestinians were killed early Saturday in an armed clash with Israeli troops near the West Bank town of Ithna near Hebron.

Radio Israel said that the two youths opened fire on an Israeli army patrol and in the exchange of fire the two died.

The radio made no mention of Israeli casualties.

Bush in New Delhi

NEW DELHI (AP) — U.S. Vice-President George Bush arrived here Saturday on a mission to revitalise relations between the world's two largest democracies and called India a major, "pivotal power," vital to peace and prosperity in South Asia.

"The United States supports a strong, stable and united India at peace with its neighbours as a key element in a stable, peaceful and prosperous South Asia," Mr. Bush said in a statement issued on his arrival.

Mr. Bush could find himself involved in efforts to secure the release of an American newlywed couple kidnapped Friday by Sri Lankan Tamil separatists. They reportedly were bound for or already are in India's southern Tamil Nadu state with their captors.

Mr. Bush is expected to hold wide-ranging talks on a series of foreign policy differences between India and the United States, especially India's mounting complaints about U.S. arms sales to rival Pakistan.

"I am sure we will discuss both our commonalities and our differences," Mr. Bush said, "but I would emphasise my belief that the values, traditions and interests of our two nations hold in common far outweigh any differences we might have."

The separatists seized Stanley Dryson Allen, 36, and his wife Mary, 29, from their home in the northern Sri Lankan district of Jaffna and threatened to kill them unless their demands are met by noon on Monday.

The kidnapers, a guerrilla

group calling itself the People's Liberation Army, demanded the release of 20 of their colleagues held by Sri Lanka and 50 million rupees (\$2 million) in gold.

The guerrillas, who are fighting for a separate Tamil state in Sri Lanka, asked for the prisoners and gold to be handed over to the government of the South Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

New Delhi has denied statements by the Sri Lankan government that guerrillas are trained in Tamil Nadu.

The couple were seized from their home in the troubled northern district of Jaffna, about 40 kilometres across a narrow strait from India.



A crippled child takes part in a peace march staged in Beirut Saturday by Lebanese civilians demanding an end to the violence and bloodshed which has plagued the country for over nine years (AP wirephoto).

Israelis destroy Nabatiyeh house

SIDON, South Lebanon (AP) — About 150 Israeli soldiers in 10 armoured personnel carriers and as many jeeps arrived Saturday in the Shi'ite Muslim southern Lebanese village of Nabatiyeh, where an Israeli soldier had been killed Friday by a hand grenade thrown at a passing convoy, and destroyed a house in the village. Reporters in the area said the Israelis stood guard while a bulldozer smashed the house from which the Israelis claimed the grenade had been thrown. The Israelis often bulldoze houses as punishment for attacks against them. The building had housed a family of six, which had been driven from the southern suburbs of Beirut in last February's civil warfront, the reporters said. There were no arrests. meantime, a civilian identified as Mustafa Najm was seriously wounded in Sidon Saturday when Israeli soldiers opened fire in an apparent effort to clear a main thoroughfare of parked cars, state-run Beirut Radio said.

Lebanese children stage peace march

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Lebanon saw its first real peace demonstration Saturday, a parade of children who marched amid ghostly carnival figures depicting the horror of the nation's nine-year war.

The six-block parade was greeted with rice thrown from balconies — a symbol of welcome — as it wound its way along Hamra Street, the main shopping thoroughfare of mostly Muslim west Beirut.

Organised as "street theatre" by teachers at the Lebanese University, the parade included 20-foot-high figures, controlled by sticks, that represented the horrors of war — a sniper with a ghastly face, a victim with brains spilling out, a graying mother with her hand held fearfully to her mouth.

The children were in all manner of costumes, too. Some were dressed as hostages with hands tied, some as angels.

About 20 young boys were in the fatigue uniforms of militiamen and walked along behind a donkey-drawn car decorated with styrofoam skulls and a huge gambling dice — a not too subtle suggestion that war is a wager with death.

Many of the costumes were less symbolic of war. One boy wore the baggy pants of a Lebanese moun-

tain man with a paste-on handle bar moustache. Another had the flowing white robes of an Arab sheikh. A group of girls was dressed as angels with wings bearing the cedar tree of the Lebanese flag.

The national flag was everywhere, along with flags of the boy scout troops that provided the bands. Fitting for a nation tracing back to the seafaring Phoenicians, there also was a seascout band.

"They are personalities from the war," explained Zeki Mahmoud, a student at the Lebanese University School of Art who worked on the parade.

"It is street theatre. We are trying something new here, an experiment, to say something about the war," added Adel Fakhoury, a professor in the University's teaching faculty and a main organiser of the parade.

Aside from a few small demonstrations at the beginning of the war in 1974, Lebanon has seen no real peace march. The children's parade and another peace march were planned last week but were blocked when heavy fighting broke out.

Mahmoud, in clown-face make-up, and a woman got up similarly, led the parade by running down Hamra Street carrying a banner that declared simply, "we have arrived."

Fateh, rival alliance to focus on organisational differences during second round of Algiers talks

By Lami K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Deputy leaders of three main factions within the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) arrived in Algiers Saturday to start a second round of reconciliation talks aimed at restoring the unity of the organisation.

The first round of talks three weeks ago in Algiers succeeded in opening a dialogue between Fateh, the biggest Palestinian commando group, and a left-wing four-faction alliance, headed by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), but stopped short of addressing the main points of political and organisational differences.

Differences among Fateh and the four-faction alliance, which also includes the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) and the Palestinian Communist Party, have deepened after the unexpected reconciliation meeting between PLO Chairman and Fateh leader Yasser Arafat and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak last December — a step that was perceived by the alliance to have indicated Fateh's readiness to accept American — sponsored peace plans and to give up armed struggle against Israel.

A few hours before leaving Damascus for Algiers, Mr. Yasser Abd Rabbo, assistant general-secretary of the DFLP, told the Jordan Times in a phone interview that the second round of talks "will focus on the political and organisational differences."

According to Mr. Abd Rabbo the main issues that will be discussed will be Mr. Arafat's visit to Cairo and the political implications it entailed, the

establishment of confederal relations between Jordan and an independent Palestinian state which is to be established in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip," Mr.

Abd Rabbo said. "Therefore any talk that comes out with contradictory results to this goal or that might infringe the PLO's right to be the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people is rejected."

Before leaving for Tunis on his way to Algiers last week, Mr. Wazir told the Jordan Times that he did not think that there are any "ideological differences" among Fateh and the other factions.

"Fateh is still committed to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and to armed struggle," he said. "Furthermore, Fateh does not intend to depute any party to talk on behalf of the Palestinians."

The Fateh official asserted that the on-going Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue is consistent with the PNC resolutions.

Fateh-Syria mediation

Mr. Wazir also said that the results of South Yemeni and Algerian mediation efforts between Fateh and Syria are expected to be discussed during the second round of reconciliation talks.

Algerian and South Yemeni mediation efforts, however, were delayed and emissaries from both countries are expected to arrive in Damascus next week to start their mission. It was decided to put off the Algiers meeting till next week at first, but then all parties agreed to hold it Saturday, if results of the mediation efforts were not clear by then.

Mr. Abd Rabbo said that "both the reconciliation talks in Algiers and mediation effort with Syria can be carried on at the same time."

Relations between Syria and Fateh deteriorated when Damascus backed a rebellion against Mr. Arafat's leadership that erupted exactly a year ago within the

Jordanian-Palestinian talks, the PLO's relations with Syria and the election of a new Executive Committee for the organisation.

A working plan submitted by the four-faction alliance last month called for "punitive measures" against Mr. Arafat for "violating Palestinian resolutions concerning the PLO's relations with Egypt" and rejected a joint Jordanian-Palestinian statement issued here last March in which both sides, agreed to continue close consultations to develop a joint approach towards solving the Palestinian question.

The Deputy commander of PLO forces, Khalil Al Wazir, who is also the head of Fateh's delegation to the Algiers reconciliation talks, told the Jordan Times that Fateh rejected the principle of conveying stances through memorandums and preferred an exchange of views through direct talks.

But Mr. Abd Rabbo said that the four-faction alliance is insisting on its position towards Mr. Arafat's visit to Cairo and the Jordanian-Palestinian talks.

The DFLP official explained that the four-faction alliance is not opposed to the dialogue between the PLO and Jordan *per se* but objects to some of its results. He said that relations between Jordan and the PLO should be in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the Palestine National Council (PNC) and in February 1983.

The PNC, which is considered the highest Legislative body within the PLO, has endorsed the concept of confederal relations with Jordan.

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Abd Rabbo said that "both the reconciliation talks in Algiers and mediation effort with Syria can be carried on at the same time."

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group calling itself the People's Liberation Army, demanded the release of 20 of their colleagues held by Sri Lanka and 50 million rupees (\$2 million) in gold.

The guerrillas, who are fighting for a separate Tamil state in Sri Lanka, asked for the prisoners and gold to be handed over to the government of the South Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

New Delhi has denied statements by the Sri Lankan government that guerrillas are trained in Tamil Nadu.

The couple were seized from their home in the troubled northern district of Jaffna, about 40 kilometres across a narrow strait from India.

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Indian navy searches for kidnapped Americans

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — India's navy monitored ports Saturday for signs of Sri Lankan separatists who kidnapped an American couple and were thought to have sailed from Sri Lanka to the southern tip of India.

Meanwhile, Vice-President George Bush arrived in New Delhi and the U.S. embassy there said he would be briefed immediately on the case.

The separatists seized Stanley Dryson Allen, 36, and his wife Mary, 29, from their home in the northern Sri Lankan district of Jaffna and threatened to kill them unless their demands are met by noon on Monday.

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group calling itself the People's Liberation Army, demanded the release of 20 of their colleagues held by Sri Lanka and 50 million rupees (\$2 million) in gold.

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8 injured in Florence blast

FLORENCE (R) — Eight people were injured, three of them seriously, by a powerful blast Saturday at Florence's Pitti Palace, which houses one of Italy's best art collections, police said.

Most of the injured suffered severe burns from a fire started by the explosion although an attendant at the palace, formerly the property of the powerful Medici family, managed to put out the flames almost immediately with an extinguisher.

Police said they had not yet determined the cause of the blast, which also shattered windows in the 15th century Renaissance palace and in neighbouring buildings. They did not rule out the possibility of a bomb.

Hundreds of tourists were inside the palace at the time of the explosion.

Among the worst injured was the museum curator, Cristina Piacenti, who was working in her ground floor office. There were no immediate reports of damage to the art collection.

On Friday, a bomb exploded near the Italian Ministry of Justice in central Rome, damaging buildings and nearby cars, police said.

There were no reports of any injuries.

The bomb was left outside a jewellers shop in a small street beside the ministry.

The shop was seriously damaged and windows up and down the street were broken by the blast.

There were no immediate claims of responsibility.

Ma'in spa project gets JD 1.5m Jordanian loan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian government has granted the Jordanian Tourism and Spa Company (Hammamat Ma'in Resort) JD 1.5 million loan to finance part of the project the company is implementing at the Ma'in hot springs near Madaba, 35 kilometres south of here.

The project which started nearly two years ago is due to be completed in the first half of the coming year.

When completed the complex which will include a 10-storey hotel, swimming pools and a heliport to be used for emergencies, will be able to receive tourists and Jordanians seeking therapeutic

treatment in the hot and mineral waters.

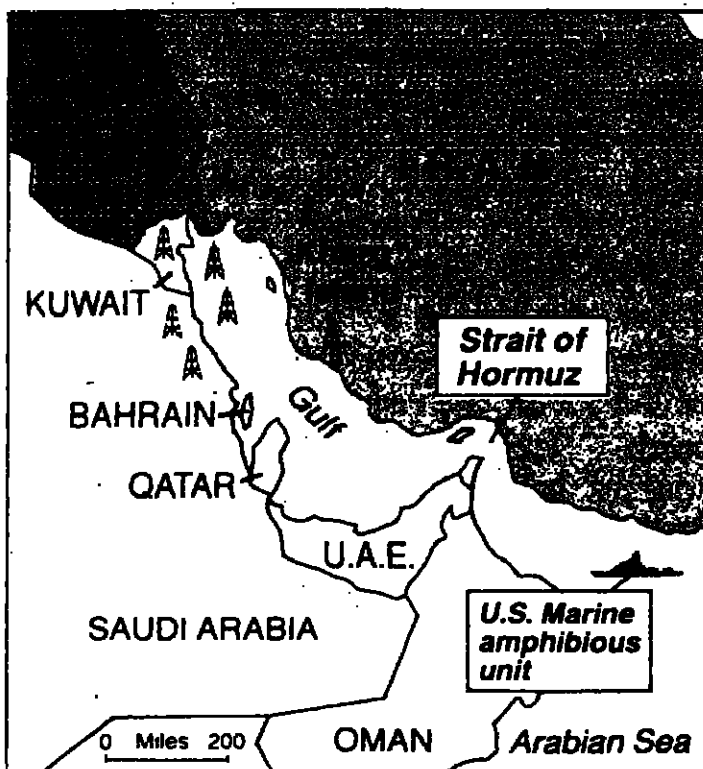
Built on a 300 dunum plot the Ma'in spa is also to include chalets and other facilities for the tourists and other services.

The company will repay the government the JD 1.5 million loan, which carries a 3.125 per cent interest, in five years' time.

The JD 12 million project is being financed by the company itself and through loans raised from the public.

A consortium of local and foreign companies specialised in therapeutic treatment, hotels and restaurants will manage the spa, in accordance with earlier agreements.

The agreement for the loan granted through the Central Bank and the Industrial Development Bank (IDB) was signed by IDB Director General Ziyad Innab and for the company by the Chairman of the Board of Directors Abdullah Al Hawamdeh.



2 new fast attack ships bolster Omani Navy

MUSCAT (R) — The Omani Navy, charged with a major role in patrolling the strategic Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf, has been bolstered with the arrival in Muscat of two new fast attack craft equipped with Exocet missiles.

The ships, Al Ba'nah and Al Sharqiyah, complete an order for three Province class fast attack craft placed with Britain's Vosper Thornycroft. The first, Dhofar, entered service in 1982.

Al Sharqiyah's captain, Lieutenant-Commander Said Ibn Saud Ibn Hamed, told reporters at a welcoming ceremony this week the new vessels, with top speeds of about 37 knots, were "as powerful as any British warship."

Each fitted with eight 40 mm Exocet launchers, the ships are expected to spearhead Omani efforts to patrol deepwater lanes in the strait, which separates Oman and Iran.

Ankara reacts coolly to U.N. Cyprus resolution

ANKARA (R) — Turkey said Saturday that the U.N. Security Council resolution on Cyprus passed Friday night against hopes that the island's problems could be solved by recognising the legal rights of both its communities.

A low-key Foreign Ministry statement also said that "those who sacrifice political and historical facts and objective principles for sterile propaganda have to take the responsibilities of its consequences."

The Security Council Friday night called for the abrogation of Turkish-Cypriot independence and condemned the recent exchange of ambassadors between Turkey and the self-proclaimed "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus."

The ministry statement said the resolution was "devoid of legal and legitimate foundations" and said Turkey would continue to support the Turkish Cypriots in "their honourable struggle for their legitimate self-defence."

Shultz: U.S. has national interests in Mideast

WASHINGTON (USIA) — The United States has a strong national interest in the Middle East, Secretary of State George Shultz told the American society of Newspaper Editors in Washington.

Furthermore, he added, the United States continues to hope that the Mideast peace process can bring about "a reasonable sense of stability and continuity" in the region.

In his appearance before the editors May 11, the secretary emphasised that the United States will remain engaged in Lebanon to "help bring about a sovereign Lebanon that is compatible with security on Israel's northern border, and we hope, will develop some pattern of interaction with all of its neighbours, including Israel."

On a related subject, Mr. Shultz said the Reagan administration shares the frustration that Jordan has in getting Congress to agree that it should be supplied with military equipment.

"But I think that if King Hussein were to find himself in the peace process and negotiating with Israel, he would find the attitudes in this country sharply shifted," Mr. Shultz said, adding that it is what the Reagan administration is working for.

He reiterated administration support for United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the Camp David process, which he said were "all fundamentally consistent ideas and involve the concept of an exchange of territory for peace."

In response to a question, Mr. Shultz said continued settlements activity in the occupied Arab territories is "not constructive" and is "an impediment to the peace process."

On the controversy swirling about the Olympics, Secretary Shultz rejected Moscow's contention that security concerns were the reason that "the Soviet Union has chosen to walk out of the Olympic games."

Mr. Shultz refused to directly speculate on Soviet motivations for not participating in the 1984 summer games in Los Angeles, but he did say he believes the Sov-



Reagan not doing enough for peace, Carter says

KUWAIT (R) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter was quoted Saturday as saying the Reagan administration was not doing enough to promote a Middle East peace plan.

Carter told the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Anba in an interview that "the present American administration is not exerting any real effort to find a quick solution for any of the problems in the Middle East."

Mr. Carter, whose former Vice-President Walter Mondale leads the race for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination, said the Reagan government had also failed to follow up its 1982 peace plan.

The 1982 proposals, rejected by Israel and Syria, called for Palestinian self-rule in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in association with Jordan, but stopped short of proposing an independent Palestinian state.

UNRWA gets \$4m from Saudi Arabia

VIENNA (Agencies) — The government of Saudi Arabia on May 10 contributed \$4 million to UNRWA's 1984 budget.

The donation was handed over to United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) Commissioner-General Olof Rydbeck by Mr. Yusuf Motabbakani, Saudi Arabia's ambassador to Austria and permanent representative to the International Organisations in Vienna.

In 1983, Saudi Arabia gave UNRWA \$1.2 million.

UAE president returns home

DHAKA (R) — The President of United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, left for home Saturday after talks with Bangladesh leaders on bilateral economic relations.

He was seen off by President Hossain Mohammad Ershad after a six-day visit which officials of both countries described as successful.

Tunisia accused of harbouring gunmen

TUNIS (R) — Libya has accused Tunisia of giving sanctuary in its consulate in Tripoli to one of the gunmen involved in Tuesday's shoot-out the Libyan capital. Foreign Ministry sources said in Tunis Friday.

The sources said Tunisia rejected the accusation and denied that any of the commandos had

fled to its consulate.

The accusation, made in a written note delivered to the Tunisian Foreign Ministry by Libya's chief representative in Tunis, Jomaa Fezzani, demanded that the alleged fugitive be handed over in two hours, they said.

But the deadline passed and no

action was taken by either side. Tunisian authorities, however, were put on the alert and Tunis residents noticed police searching cars and checking identity papers.

Libyan authorities have said they arrested a group of three saboteurs trying to infiltrate from Tunisia on Sunday.

Cairo arrests 15 opposition supporters

CAIRO (R) — A Cairo newspaper said Friday 15 opposition supporters had been arrested for "excesses" in criticising President Hosni Mubarak's ruling National Democratic Party in Egypt's general election campaign.

No immediate official word could be obtained on the report in the weekly Akhbar Al Yom, which said a candidate of the Wafd Party was among those held and later freed on bail.

The newspaper said all had been distributing pamphlets but it did not say what the "excesses" in these were.

Interior Ministry rules restrict what can be said in the campaign for the May 27 election of a new 448-seat People's Assembly. Personal abuse and anything held likely to endanger national unity or foment sectarian strife are banned.

Most commentators say Mr. Mubarak's party will win the election but also that the Wafd, a revival of a nationalist party formed in 1919 and now allied with the Muslim Brotherhood, could take up to 50 seats to form a strong parliamentary opposition.

Wafd Chairman Fouad Serageldin, 75, Friday night drew a cheering crowd estimated by independent witnesses at around 10,000 when he opened his campaign in the city of Mansoura, his home town deep in the Nile Delta.

Mr. Serageldin called the 1978 Camp David agreement with Israel "null and void because Israel violated it" and also urged that Egypt strike a balance in its relations with the superpowers.

Under the late Anwar Sadat, who signed the U.S.-sponsored Camp David accords, Egypt expelled the Soviet ambassador and

17,000 Soviet military advisers, moving closer to the U.S. which now provides Egypt with about \$2.25 billion of civil and military aid a year.

Mr. Serageldin, championing a civil, lambasted emergency laws kept in force since Mr. Sadat's 1981 assassination by Islamic extremists and an electoral law that requires a party to obtain eight per cent of the national vote before it can take up any seats won by its candidates.

The Wafdist leader also demanded that Egypt's president be chosen by elections. Under the present system, the assembly selects a presidential candidate who is then endorsed by popular referendum.

Mr. Serageldin is a veteran politician who began his career before the days of the late President Gamal Abdel Nasser.

Turkey denies Amnesty torture allegations

ANKARA (R) — Turkey said Friday night allegations by the human rights organisation Amnesty International of systematic torture in Turkish jails were untrue and baseless.

"The (amnesty) allegations that prisoners in Turkish military jails are living under bad conditions do not reflect the truth," Minister of State for Communications Mesut Yilmaz said in a statement.

Amnesty said on Wednesday that thousands of political detainees in Turkey had been systematically tortured.

It quoted former prisoners as saying they suffered savage beatings, electric shocks to the genitals and cigarette burns. Amnesty said it had given Turkey the names of 100 prisoners alleged to have died in custody since the 1980 military coup.

The statement Friday night said a government commission of senior military and civilian officials set up a month ago had conducted a detailed investigation and "it determined that the allegations were completely baseless."

It said cases of reported torture were investigated and those allegedly responsible questioned.

"These rare cases are small in number and occurred due to strong provocations," the statement said.

It did not give figures. On Thursday, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's chief adviser Adnan Kahveci told Reuters some 600 cases of alleged torture had been taken up by Turkish courts and there had been 80 convictions so far.

An official report last month said two people had died under torture in Turkish military jails

since the first imposition of martial law in late 1978. But this contradicted a March 1982 official report which said 15 had died under torture up to then.

Zia, Ozal agree to boost trade

ISLAMABAD (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq agreed Saturday to boost trade between their countries, the official Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) reported.

Mr. Ozal, who arrived Friday for a four-day visit, talked to General Zia for three hours in a meeting characterised by "deep understanding and friendship," APP said. He thanked Pakistan for its support for the Turkish Cypriots in

TV & RADIO		WHAT'S GOING ON		FOR THE TRAVELLER		USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.							
JORDAN TELEVISION MAIN CHANNEL 16:30 Koran 16:40 Children Programme 17:05 Cartoons 17:30 Children Programmes 18:25 Tom Sawyer 19:05 Programme Review 19:25 A Programme on the Arab Woman Conference 20:00 News in Arabic 20:40 Arabic Series 21:35 Wrestling 22:30 Arabic Series 23:00 News Summary 23:10 Series Continued FOREIGN CHANNEL 18:00 French Programme 19:00 News in French 19:15 Le Theatre de Bouvray 19:30 News in Hebrew 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Tales of the Unexpected 21:10 Napoleon and Love 22:00 News in English 22:15 Best Seller - Chiefs - eps. 1 RADIO JORDAN 355 KHz, 4 V & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 560 KHz, SW 07:00 Light Music 07:30 Newsdesk 08:00 Morning Show 10:00 News Summary 10:05 Morning Show 11:00 Pop Session 11:00 News Summary 12:05 Pop Session 12:05 Pop Session 13:00 News Summary 14:00 News Bulletin 14:30 Instruments 14:30 Science Report 15:00 Concert Hour 16:00 News Summary 16:05 Instruments 16:30 Old Favourites 17:00 Listeners' Choice 18:00 News Summary 18:05 Jazz Hour 19:00 Newsdesk 19:30 Dan with a Star 20:00 Evening Show 21:00 News Summary 21:55 News Summary 22:00 Evening Show 23:00 News Summary 23:05 Evening Show 24:00 News Headlines		BBC WORLD SERVICE 659, 720, 1413 KHz. 06:00 The World of Singing 06:45 Financial Review 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:00 British Press Review 07:15 Letterbox 07:30 Music For a While 07:45 Letter from America 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Jazz for the Asking 09:00 World News 09:09 News About Britain 09:15 From Our Own Correspondent 09:30 The History and Final Season of HMS Bounty 09:50 Recording of the Week 10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15 The Plessner's Years 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 Science in Action 11:45 Sports Review 12:15 Letter from America 12:30 Religious Service 13:00 World News 13:10 World Phone In: It's Your World 13:25 News About Britain 14:00 Play of the Week 15:00 News 15:09 Commentary 15:15 Good Books 15:30 Villate 15:45 The Tony Myatt Request 16:00 News About Britain 16:09 Play of the Week 16:10 News 17:15 W Invitation Concert 18:00 World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 From our own Correspondent 18:35 Financial Review 18:45 Letter from America 19:00 Meridian 19:30 Financial Review 19:40 Reflections 19:45 Sports Roundup 19:50 Newsdesk 20:30 Brain of Britain 20:45 21:00 Music For a While 21:15 The Marijuana Kid 22:00 World News 22:09 Commentary 22:15 Letterbox 22:30 Sunday Half-Hour 23:00 Letter from Everywhere 23:15 The Pleasure's Yours 24:00 World News 06:00 Newsdesk 06:05 News Summary 06:45 Sports Roundup 07:00 World News 07:09 Commentary 07:15 Letter from America 07:30 Somerset Maugham VOICE OF AMERICA MW 1206, KHz; 7200, 9565, 11740, 11923 & 15210 06:00 VOA Morning: News on the hour; news summaries; daily business reports; science; sports; Islamic news reports; VOA editorial and world and U.S. opinion roundups; documentary analysis; features 17:00 News 17:10 New Horizons and New Products 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 International News Reports 18:30 Music USA Standards 19:00 News 19:10 Critic's Choice 19:30 Special English News and Features 20:00 News 20:10 Sunday Report		TODAY'S EVENTS EXHIBITIONS * Australian graphic art Donoche Patterson at Alia Art Gallery. * "Jordan 1984" an exhibition of paintings at the French Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m. * Art exhibition by Mr. Michel Lecomte at the Royal Cultural Centre between May 7 and May 15. CULTURAL CENTRES Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267 American Centre 44371 American Cultural Library 41520 British Council 36147-8 French Cultural Centre 37009 Goethe Institute 41993 Soviet Cultural Centre 44203 Spanish Cultural Centre 20409 Turkish Cultural Centre 39777 Hays Arts Centre 66519 Hussein Youth City 667181 Y.W.C.A. 41703 W.M.A. 664251 Amman Municipal Library 36111 University of Jordan Library 843555 MUSEUMS Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquity of Jordan. Jabal Al Ota (Claypot Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays) 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays. Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Museum, Jabal Lawzeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30124. Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9		AMMAN AIRPORT This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen International Airport, Tel. (08) 53250, 53070, 53082, 53171, where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS 07:05 Cairo (MS) 09:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) 09:30 Amman (RJ) 09:45 Cairo (RJ) 09:55 Jeddah (RJ) 10:05 Kuwait (RJ) 10:30 Berlin, Larnaca (IF) 10:30 Dhahran, Riyadh (SV) 14:30 Tripoli, Larnaca (LN) 14:40 Kuwait (RJ) 15:10 Jeddah (SV) 16:40 Larnaca (RJ) 16:45 Baghdad (IA) 16:50 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ) 17:35 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ) 17:35 London, Paris (RJ) 17:40 Madrid, Geneva (RJ) 17:40 New York, Amsterdam (RJ) 18:00 Rome (RJ) 18:30 Cairo (RJ) 20:05 Cairo (MS) 20:20 Athens (OA) 22:05 Damascus (RJ) 22:30 Cairo (RJ) 00:45 Baghdad (RJ) 01:00 London (BA) DEPARTURES 05:10 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH) 05:45 Larnaca, Berlin (IF) 07:15 Amman, Qabala (RJ) 08:00 Damascus, Paris (AF) 08:05 Cairo (MS) 09:00 Damascus, Rome (AZ) 11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ) 11:45 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ) 11:45 Larnaca, Berlin (IF) 12:15 Riyadh, Dhahran (SV) 12:30 Larnaca (RJ) 14:30 Cairo (RJ) 15:30 Larnaca, Tripoli (LN) 15:40 Kuwait (RJ) 16:40 Jeddah (SV) 18:00 Baghdad (IA) 19:15 Damascus (RJ) 19:30 Kuwait (RJ) 19:45 Dhahran (SV) 19:45 Bahrain, Muscat (RJ) 20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ) 20:40 Cairo (RJ) 21:05 Cairo (MS)		MARITIME TRAFFIC Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port: * Mariko Marile * Mercurio Arabia * Badre * Bangkok Moni * Aegis Mystic * Vishva Aditya * Laredo * Al Khansa Amin Kawar and Sons Company, Tel. 22324 (six lines) at your service. MONEY EXCHANGE Local sell/buy rates in Jds Belgian franc 66.91 / 67.3 Dutch guilder 121.21 / 121.4 Egyptian pound 323.3 / 326.6 French franc 44.3 / 44.6 Iraqi dinar 353 / 357 Italian lire (for 100) 22.1 / 22.3 Japanese yen (for 100) 164 / 165 Kuwaiti dinar 120.9 / 128.5 Lebanese lira 65.5 / 66.3 Omani rial 109.1 / 109.3 Qatari riyal 103.5 / 104 Saudi riyal 107.2 / 107.7 Swedish crown 46.4 / 46.7 Swiss franc 165.1 / 166.1 Syrian lira 52.4 / 53.1 UAE dirham 102.8 / 103.5 U.K. sterling pound 522 / 525.1 U.S. dollar 378 / 381 W. German mark 156.3 / 137.1 WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. It will be relatively warm, with southerly moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm. Low/high temperature in deg.C. Amman 19/30 Aqaba 20/40 Deserts 19/32 Jordan Valley 20/40 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 31, Aqaba 40. Humidity readings: Amman 18 per cent, Aqaba 12 per cent.		EMERGENCIES Ambulance 193, 75111 First Aid, fire, police 75121 Blood bank 75121 Civil Defence rescue 661111 Fire headquarters 22090-3 Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777 Police headquarters 39141 Traffic police 56390-1 Electric Power Co. 36381-2 Municipal water service 71125-5 Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333 HOSPITALS Hussein Medical Centre 81381-32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4 Akhileh Maternity, J. Amman 42441 Jabel Amman Maternity 42441 Malhas, J. Amman 36140 Palestine, Shmeisani 664171-1 Shmeisani Hospital 669131 University Hospital 66941-5 Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158 Al-Mushar Hospital 66727-9 The Islamic, Abdali 665292 Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164 Italian, Al-Muhajreen 77101-3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 75111 Army, Marka 91611 NIGHT DUTY AMMAN: Dr. Anwar Akrabawi 24696 MARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in Jds per kg. Banana (Mukammar) 280 / 240 Banana (Mukammar) 240 / 210 Beans 350 / 300 Broad Beans 250 / 230 Cabbage 70 / 50 Carrot 140 / 110 Cauliflower (white) 250 / 200 Chick peas 120 / 100 Cucumber (large) 250 / 200 Cucumber (small) 320 / 280 Eggplant (large) 140 / 120 Eggplant (small) 140 / 100 Garlic 360 / 330 Grapefruit 180 / 160 Green Almonds 180 / 150 Lemon 180 / 160 Mallow 500 / 450 Marrow (large) 250 / 200 Marrow (small) 320 / 280 Mandarin 230 / 200 Mushrooms 600 / 500 Onion (dry) 100 / 80 Onion (green) 180 / 140 Okra 150 / 100 Oranges (local) 170 / 140 Oranges (Shumouti) 350 / 300 Peas 500 / 450 Peas 320 / 280 Pepper (sweet) 300 / 250 Pepper (hot green) 400 / 350 Potatoes 120 / 90 Spinach 220 / 200 Tomatoes 130 / 100 Water Melon 150 / 120		IRBD Dr. Issam H. 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Mohammad visits Badia police

AMMAN (Petra) — His Highness Prince Mohammad Saturday visited Al Badia police headquarters and Al Badia police training school in Al Azzraq region.

He was briefed by Sheriff Fawaz bin Abdullah, commander of Al Badia police, on the duties and responsibilities of the force especially in maintaining security in Al Badia (desert regions) of the country.

Prince Mohammad also heard a

briefing by the training school director on training programmes and courses for Badia police officers.

Later he watched a formation of Badia police parading and carrying out exercises.

Prince Mohammad toured the various sections of the school, the lecture hall and other facilities.

A number of senior officers and Al Azzraq district governor accompanied Prince Mohammad on the visit.

Prince Mohammad later met representatives from the northern Badia region and conveyed to them greetings from His Majesty King Hussein after which he discussed with them ways of developing their society within the framework of the country's development process.

The meeting was attended by Irbid governor Turki Al Hindawi, and other military and civil officials.

Crown Prince opens German-Jordanian seminar on environmental sciences

Hassan urges academia, community to work together

By Anne Counsell
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan emphasised the link between academia and the community during a speech delivered at the opening ceremony of a seminar entitled "Present Aspects of German-Jordanian Scientific Co-operation in Environmental Sciences", which opened Saturday at the Royal Cultural Centre.

Addressing German and Jordanian experts in the fields of scientific and environmental research, Prince Hassan stressed the need for an integrated educational and scientific programme to meet the needs of the country.

Regarding the educational requirements of Jordan, Prince Hassan said "the concept of manpower management and educational programmes is rapidly becoming outdated."

"With the burden of nearly 100,000 Jordanians studying abroad and with the threshold of our own universities at maximum capacity, the link between development priorities, education and manpower training will have to evolve qualitatively rather than quantitatively."

Citing the example of the 1978 National Science and Technology Plan, Prince Hassan said that this had been an "eventful" concept for a United Nations conference in Vienna and that "it did not have any lasting effects on our developmental process. It remains a concept without any new inputs or re-juvenation."

Speaking about academic symposiums and seminars, Prince Hassan said: "It is a phenomenon of meetings of this kind that we sit in the context of academia, hopeful that meetings such as this can be heard outside these four walls, while the reality is so often that the bridging necessary between thought and the executive agencies is an operation that requires a great deal of time and effort."

Mission orientation

"The fact remains that without mission orientation, the executive agencies cannot hope to deliver. Without an interdisciplinary approach, we cannot hope to speak of environmental sciences because as we look at the programme in front of us and consider the range of subjects from historical environment to physical environment to the promotion of the human environment, we are trying to speak of the whole range of developmental issues."

Prince Hassan then suggested that through the provenly successful joint activities of Jordanian-German co-operation, a catalytic approach for interdisciplinary thought be formulated.

He also suggested that "we attempt specifically to form a concept group whereby Jordanian-

"The time has come for a hard-hitting analysis of the priorities for the 1980's. As we conclude the final stages of our 1981-85 Five Year Plan, possibly future plans could be based on joint initiative through a revival of the National Science and Technology plan."

Prince Hassan also thanked the organisers for focusing on the issues of water resources and their management, and said that regional plans should take their impetus from these limited resources.

The subject of energy, to be discussed in the seminar, should focus on solar energy as a national priority and that a review of energy development is required, he said.

Prince Hassan reminded participants of the need for the sector health plan including social services, education, rural development, clean water and paramedical facilities to be implemented.

Attitudinal bottlenecks

Prince Hassan appealed to the academic community to assist in unclogging some of the bottlenecks faced in the rural areas which are largely "attitudinal" bottlenecks based on the curative aspect of medicine.

In conclusion, Prince Hassan said that the seminar had come at an extremely timely moment where linkages are required between the academic communities in Jordan and Germany where a deep-rooted relationship has evolved.

The important issues of regional planning, development, environmental planning, which are being discussed, can help towards the planning of present and future priorities with the contribution and involvement of all those concerned in the academic and executive fields.

Other opening speeches underlined the close bilateral relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and Jordan especially in the academic field.

President of the RSS, Dr. Fakhraddin Daghestani, expressed his thanks to the German government for their contributions to the RSS in the field of solar energy and building sciences, and emphasised that such technical co-operation helps to narrow the gap between developing and developed countries.

The academic exchange for the advancement of science was praised by Dr. Hansgerd Schulte, president of the Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

The academic sector has traditionally been a main feature of the cultural ties between West Germany and Jordan, with several thousand Jordanians having studied at German universities over the past 20 years, so that co-operation has gradually evolved.

Dr. Schulte said that 70 DAAD students from Jordan are currently studying in West Germany and that the DAAD hopes to start

an exchange agreement with the University of Jordan as it has with Yarmouk University.

Dr. Hermann Munz, ambassador of West Germany, emphasised the importance of the seminar in discussing such an urgent subject and outlined the financial and technical co-operations between the two countries. He also expressed his hope for continued friendship and bilateral relations in the future.

The seminar, which is being organised by the RSS and the DAAD in co-operation with the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University, the Goethe Institute, the German Agency for Technical Co-operation (GIZ) and the West German embassy, is focusing on water resources and their management, hydrology sewerage and solar energy during the first of the two-day seminar.

Jordanian and German experts in these fields presented a series of papers directly related to current developments in Jordan.

Mathematical model

Professor Gerhard Rouve, from the Technical University of Aachen, presented a paper on mathematical models for assessing the depletion of water resources in a basin over certain time periods.

He also discussed water data banks as a means of effective management and planning using such models. The importance of research in determining the safe usage of resources was also highlighted.

A summary of the current water and sewerage projects in Jordan was presented by Mr. Mohammad Keilani, president of the Water

Authority (WA).

Mr. Keilani explained the need for efficient and simple systems in water and sewerage projects and outlined the policy of the WA.

He said that the WA plans to improve the quality of water and to develop the available resources as well as protecting those resources already available.

Current and planned projects in all areas were also outlined as part of the WA's activities. Water quality aspects in semi-arid countries and the alternatives of groundwater and surface waters for domestic supplies were the subjects discussed by Prof. Peter Udluft from the Technical University of Munich.

Other papers presented and discussed during the first day included "Water Resources and Quality-Case Studies in Jordan" by Prof. Elias Salameh from the Water Research Centre of the University of Jordan and papers on alternative energy sources and solar energy.

The harnessing of solar energy, currently being developed in Jordan by the RSS, is an important aspect of development especially in the rural areas said Dr. Hani Al Mulki, director of Solar Energy at the RSS.

The seminar is continuing Sunday with lectures and discussions on infection control and hospital hygiene, archaeology and the environment as well as a briefing on the organisations promoting scientific research in Germany.

The participants will evaluate the seminar in a discussion of results and propose recommendations for continued co-operation and lines of research.

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Hassan meets 'Obeidat

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, visited the prime ministry Saturday and held a meeting with Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat.

More hit by food poisoning in Irbid

IRBID (J.T.) — At least 21 people have received treatment for food poisoning at the Princess Basma Hospital here but most of them have now been discharged.

Hospital director, Dr. Abdul Hafiz Momani, said that the poisoning resulted from the eating of yoghurt and chicken.

The victims suffered from nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea with a severe pain in the lower abdomen. Some also had high temperatures as they arrived at the hospital for treatment, Dr. Momani said.

Samples of the food they had consumed were taken to the laboratories to determine the causes of the poisoning and preliminary results indicated that the yoghurt and chicken was unfit for human consumption, Dr. Momani added.

A number of the victims told the local press that they had bought the yoghurt from stores in Irbid, while the chicken had been purchased in a refugee camp near Irbid.

Commenting on this, Dr. Momani said that the chicken seemed to have been slaughtered and cleaned in an unsatisfactory and unhygienic manner while the yoghurt had been contaminated.

Samples of the chicken and the yoghurt were taken by health department teams to be tested at laboratories in Amman so as to determine the type of germs that caused the poisoning, Dr. Momani said.

Khreis leaves for Algiers

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Jordanian Medical Association, Dr. Hassan Khreis, left for Algeria Saturday to attend the three-day meeting of the Arab Physicians Union general assembly scheduled to start in the Algerian capital on May 14.

Lawzi leads discussion of feasibility of pulses

AMMAN (Petra) — Agriculture Under-Secretary Salem Al Lawzi said Saturday that Jordan faces the problem of shortages in manpower to work in the field of agriculture, especially skilled people to harvest pulses.

He was addressing the opening session of a two-week training course at the University of Jordan's Faculty of Agriculture.

The seminar, on "The Mechanisation of Harvesting Pulses" is devoted to discussing the economic feasibility of growing pulses

and problems facing the expansion in their cultivation.

Dr. Lawzi told the session that the development of pulse cultivation in Jordan requires an intensification of efforts to produce more pulses and to make Jordan self-sufficient in this commodity.

The Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development, in co-operation with the University of Jordan, organised the training course which was attended by 17 participants who will make field studies and hear lectures on the subject.

establishment of regional laboratories to analyse animal fodder and to conduct tests to diagnose diseases and to offer both better treatment for afflicted poultry and to advise farmers, as well training courses for those employed in the poultry industry.

The recommendations included a call on various organisations and governments to exchange information and expertise on poultry-related topics and to agree on vaccines and ways of preventing diseases.

Poultry experts from the Arab World, Europe and the U.S. took part in the symposium, organised by the Ministry of Agriculture, the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Jordan, U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development.

Faculty of Agriculture Marwan Kamal told the Jordan Times that many different kinds of virulent poultry diseases have had devastating effects on the poultry sector in this country as they have spread rapidly causing huge losses to farmers.

He said that unless strict disease control measures are enforced, such diseases have the potential seriously to hinder the expansion of the poultry industry.

A ceremony to honour pioneer nurses who have been working for 25 years or more will be held under the patronage of Princess Basma in the near future, Miss Kumq said.

association Her Highness Princess Basma, to mark the occasion.

This year "we were not able to hold this celebration due to administrative matters", Miss Kumq said. "However, nurses were urged by the president of the Nursing Association to celebrate the day on site", she added.

Amman's "angels of mercy" Saturday celebrated on their own, exchanging gifts and speeches, and pledging to work harder to help all those who need help.

Miss Kumq told the Jordan Times that one of the main aims of the nursing college is to introduce specialised courses in the field of nursing instead of having large numbers of nurses enrolled in

general nursing courses.

Only 1092 nurses graduated from nursing colleges in Jordan throughout the period between 1956 and 1983. Last year 68 nurses graduated from the Jordan Nursing College of the Ministry of Health.

Miss Kumq called on Jordanian families to encourage their children to enroll in the nursing profession for "everyone can get sick" and is therefore likely to need help from our angels.

A ceremony to honour pioneer nurses who have been working for 25 years or more will be held under the patronage of Princess Basma in the near future, Miss Kumq added.

Scandinavian Red Cross team to arrive Tuesday

By a Jordan Times
Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A six-member delegation from the International Committee of the Red Cross is scheduled to arrive here Tuesday on a week-long courtesy visit to Jordan.

Director of the Red Crescent Society here, Dr. Ahmad Abu Qourah, told the Jordan Times that the delegation's visit follows an invitation from the Red Crescent Society which has centres in

Amman, Madaba, Salt and Aqaba.

Dr. Abu Qourah said that the delegation, consisting of four presidents of the Red Cross from Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland and the secretaries-general from Finland and Denmark, will visit the Red Crescent centres in Jordan to acquaint themselves with the various activities of the society.

During their visit, the delegation members will visit tourist sites and development projects in the Kingdom.

They will hold talks with Dr. Abu Qourah and his aides on ways of bolstering co-operation between humanitarian and charitable societies in Jordan and the Scandinavian countries.

Tal to lead UNEP team

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the meeting of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) scheduled to start in Nairobi on May 16.

On the agenda is the world environment and the prevention of pollution.

Jordan will be represented in these meetings by a delegation to be headed by environment department director at the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, Dr. Sufyan Al Tal.

Jordan participated in the UNEP meetings held last May, which discussed the Israeli plan to build a canal to link the Mediterranean and the Dead Seas.

Sharif Zaid visits engineers

AMMAN (Petra) — Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces Lieutenant-General Sharif Zaid bin Shaker paid a visit Saturday to one of the divisions of the Royal Engineers.

Sharif Zaid was briefed by the commander on the daily training programme after which he toured the divisional base and saw a display of equipment and military training.

Accompanying Sharif Zaid on his tour were the assistant chief of staff, the commander of the Royal Engineers as well as other high-ranking army officers.

At the conclusion of the Beitna Jordan National Rally, which was held on 11th May, the Motor Sports Committee of the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan, the organiser of this event, wishes to express its appreciation and gratitude to Beit El Mal / Beitna Company for sponsoring this event and to the following for their valuable co-operation and assistance:

The Ministry of Finance and Customs
The Ministry of Interior
The Public Security Directorate
The Civil Defence Directorate
The Traffic Police
The Highway Patrol
The Desert Police
The Royal Jordan Radio Amateurs Society
Jordan University Hospital Doctors
Arab Computer Technology Company / Texas Instruments Computers
Consulting Corporation for Informatics Ltd.
United Trading Company
Arab Mineral Water Company / Al Kawther
The Jordan Television Corporation
The Hashemite Broadcasting Service
Local and Foreign Press
Members of the Royal Automobile Club and their friends who assisted in this rally by manning control points, etc.

Official results of the Beitna Jordan National Rally
GROUP B-EXPERIENCED COMPETITORS

Driver	Co-driver	Car type	Time
1st George Haddad	Nabil Haddad	Toyota Celica Rally	0:50:45
2nd Antony Walker	Gordon Mackenzie	Nissan 240 RS	0:52:47
3rd Ziad Bustami	Mutaz Daker	Nissan 240 RS	0:55:59

GROUP A - NOVICE COMPETITORS

Driver	Co-driver	Car type	Time
1st Tareq Bilbeisi	Hanna Zanani	Toyota Corolla GT	1:06:38
2nd Mohammad Wardeh	Khaled Mufti	Datsun 180 B	1:25:22
3rd Ghazzan Zmily	Maher Nabulsi	Toyota Corolla	1:45:44

CLASS WINNERS

Class	Driver	Co-driver	Car type
Class 1: David Jepson	Barbara Longhurst	Toyota Starlet	
Class 2: Suhail Marar	Giles Sawalha	Toyota Corolla GT	
Class 3: George Haddad	Nabil Haddad	Toyota Celica Rally	
Class 4: Antony Walker	Gordon Mackenzie	Nissan 240 RS	

Jordan Times

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The pundit is wrong

GEORGE Shultz may be the Reagan administration official most respected by the U.S. Congress and maybe even by the American people. But, contrary to what he had earlier believed, he is not the man to solve Middle East problems.

In his latest statement on the Palestinian question Shultz showed us that he is not capable of learning from past mistakes. For his basic theory is totally flawed if he really thinks, as he says, that by Jordan finding itself in the peace process and negotiating with Israel, it would find a U.S. much different from what it is today, willing and capable to push honestly for a settlement in the area.

Does not the secretary of state know the basic facts about a) Jordan's total commitment to starting a meaningful process that could bring lasting peace to this part of the world, and b) our total opposition, based on conviction and reason, to taking a course that could only bring disaster instead of tranquility and peace, like the course he usually suggests in his endless remarks and statements? Why does he want a country as small as ours to take a risk bigger than itself, when his superpower is unwilling to utter one strong word to its client state in favour of equality and peace?

We do not really understand what makes Shultz so sure of his way, advising Jordan to "find" itself negotiating with Israel, when considering not only the unbroken chain of recent American mistakes and gross miscalculations in handling the situations in Lebanon and in the other Israeli-occupied Arab territories but also in view of the full range of hostile U.S. policies towards the Arabs and against their national causes since Eisenhower.

Secretary Shultz is free to blame the U.S. debacle in Lebanon on Congress, if he so wishes. Equally, he may want to avail himself of the blame for the failure of the arms deal with Jordan and Saudi Arabia, by blaming it on Congress also. But he simply cannot ask us to be the scapegoat for his many other failures.

The author of the Reagan initiative for the Middle East knows fully well who killed its chance of success for him. It is not King Hussein nor the Palestinians; the culprits are the government in Israel and their clients around the White House corner. Why does not Mr. Shultz dare to even talk about them?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: Indispensable support

IN A clear and honest political discussion, Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat explained many points and reminded Arabs of the facts facing them. He called on them to condemn the past and present shortcomings and to actually do and offer something.

Accordingly, there was a confirmation of the importance of Arab leadership's awareness, a reminder of the dangers threatening the nation, and urging these leaderships to shoulder their responsibilities by holding an Arab summit and attempting to foil dangers.

The prime minister went on to describe these dangers in detail and to specify their features whether inside or outside the occupied territories, and the efforts of the Jordanian-Palestinian Committee with the Arab oil countries to present active aid to the support fund. He also said that Arab action as one unit is the indispensable foundation for facing the dangers and activating up international support for the Palestinian problem.

Al Dustour: subtly expressed

MR. OBEIDAT reviewed accurately the dangerous impact of the current Arab situation on the various national causes starting from the question of supporting steadfastness in the occupied territories, through the Lebanese crisis and ending with the Iran-Iraq war, which would not have continued so long and would not have exhausted so much energy had the Arabs adopted a unified stance by siding with Iraq, which is fighting to defend its soil along Arab territories.

Mr. Obeidat also reviewed in a responsible and clear manner, the Jordanian-Palestinian relations and the non-ceasing dialogue signifying this distinguished relation. He confirmed a confident look to the future of this relationship, especially with regard to enhancing steadfastness, which is clearly and strongly supported by Jordan.

The prime minister's evaluation of the Jordanian-Syrian relations and his honest review of its various aspects is another side of the framework through which the prime minister is careful to look, cool and responsible language prevail in his speech and no emotional or nervous reactions in handling such greatly complex and sensitive issues.

Sawt Al Shaab: Urgent issues

THE PRIME Minister clarified once again the Jordanian attitude on dealing with the PLO, and re-confirmed that Jordan, with each step it takes and keeping in mind that the Arab cause is its first priority, has taken care to co-ordinate fully with the legitimate leadership of the PLO, and in co-operation with the PLO, to crystallise a comprehensive and clear Jordanian-Palestinian stance. Such a stance will gain Arab support following its discussion at an Arab summit, and this should bridge the gap as called for by Europeans who feel that Arabs should crystallise a unified stance to enable Europeans to move towards implementing it.

However, holding an Arab summit has become an uncertainty, and even if it is held, its results will, unfortunately, not be guaranteed. The current divisions among the Arab Nation renders it unable to look into the far future and to be aware of the consequences of the present challenges.

All complex problems in the Arab arena will increase in complexity if not tackled soon.

Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture meetings Unfounded 'achievements' in Arab economic integration

By Fahed Fanek

AFTER SEVERAL days, the meetings, discussions, and working papers of the 28th session of the congress of Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture held in Amman last month were concluded by the issuance of a set of recommendations that we think were ready and neatly typed before the meeting commenced.

To describe these recommendations we can say that they represent a familiar note of an old song, or texts of a general nature that enjoys general acceptance, with nothing taking place to convert them into reality.

We were not in need of all these lengthy meetings attended by Arab business tycoons, industrialists and financial wizards to simply advise the Arab countries on the benefits of diversification of economic activity, increasing agricultural production, and decreasing dependence on imports to satisfy the needs of the people.

Even without or before these

recommendations we never argued against the wisdom of using oil revenues strictly for national purposes, the benefits of studies on ways to preserve the Arab wealth in the outside world, the necessity of rationalising unfeasible industries that were established in the shadow of petro-financial euphoria, rationalisation of Arab development plans, the recognition of Arab manpower and its priority over foreign labour force, etc.

All these slogans were never contested by any Arab government, and, accordingly, there was nothing new in these recommendations.

There is no shortage of slogans in the Arab World, and there is no ignorance of what should be done if we are serious about creating a sound Arab Nation, economically, socially and militarily.

The problem is that there is a huge gap between talk and performance, slogan shouting and decision-making, and between people and their chances for participation in public life. The

general trends and basic policies are being made by foreign consultants and Arab-American joint committees.

The astronomical public expenditure within most Arab countries is not meant to create a strong economic base. The major part of it is wasted on subsidising uneconomic activities, huge conspicuous institutions, consumption and imports etc. This is good only to buy time, neutralise opposition and earn the popular approval for the time being.

It would have been far more productive had the Arab congress adopted an inter-Arab corporation for industry or agriculture, the capital of which to be subscribed by those who were present, either in their personal capacity or on behalf of their institutions. It is much better to light a small candle than to issue declarations condemning darkness and assessing what should be done by others.

The Amman declaration of the Arab Chambers of Com-

merce, Industry and Agriculture re-assured us of the progress achieved in recent years at the level of common Arab economic action, the general framework through the approval of the Arab charter for national economy, the strategy of Arab common economic action which were adopted by the Amman Arab Summit Conference in January 1980.

The beautiful language did not change the underlying bitter reality. There is no common Arab economic action that is noteworthy, even after the new challenges that threaten the Arab World, not only by exploiting its resources but also by occupying the land and terminating the very national existence, such as the Israeli and Iranian knives poised at our throats.

The Arab Common Market is still a decision on paper; most Arab countries refrained from signing, and those who signed did not abide and gave priority to their bureaucracy res-

trictions, and local policies. Arab economic strategy and the Arab Development Decade remained as nice words during meetings time. One third of the Arab Development Decade has already expired with literally nothing put into practice.

In the first stage, Jordan and Syria were eliminated from the list of Arab countries which are eligible to benefit from the \$5 billion earmarked to finance Arab development over 10 years.

The finance ministers of the Arab oil producing countries met after the summit conference and agreed that only very poor and underdeveloped Arab countries may benefit from these funds, such as Mauritania, Somalia, Djibouti, Yemen and Sudan.

In the second stage, the whole project was put into final rest and even the very poor and underdeveloped countries did not receive a penny due to lack of suitable investment environment and infrastructure

i.e., because of the very reason that they are very poor and underdeveloped!

The declaration "accused" the petro-financial euphoria of having enhanced the Common Arab economic action. I claim that Arab petro-finance wealth never brought the Arabs any closer to each other.

To the contrary, certain Arab government started to think Pan-Arabism and Arab economic integration or co-ordination as mere cover to share in the Arab wealth.

The foreign media expected 10 years ago that Arab wealth will enable the Arabs to control the international economy, that they will use the oil weapon to secure their national rights and impose their political will. However, the Arab governments have overdone the imagination of the worst expectation in shelling out or over-spending the national wealth in a manner that did not create a healthy economy, a solid security or even economic or financial stability.

U.S. ties with Saudi friends going through bad patch

By Nicholas Moore

Reuter

RIYADH — Relations between the United States and its oldest major ally in the Middle East, Saudi Arabia, are going through a distinctly bad patch.

The Saudis are pained by what they see as a persistent U.S. tilt to Israel and misunderstanding of their own attitudes.

Saudi officials, basically sympathetic to the U.S., also seem disturbed by signs of restored Soviet influence in the Arab World and blame this on U.S. policy.

They cite U.S. failure to win Israeli concessions to promote the 1982 Reagan Middle East peace proposals and they voice impatience at how U.S. elections always seem to become an excuse to postpone moves to break the Arab-Israeli logjam.

U.S. support for Iraq, which Saudi Arabia backs in its Gulf war with Iran, is seen as lukewarm and the Saudis showed no surprise at press reports that American weapons were being delivered secretly

to Tehran.

Saudi Arabia was further irked that Israel won out in the latest congressional battle over U.S. arms sales to the kingdom, when the administration cancelled the sale of 1,400 stinger anti-aircraft missiles.

The Saudis were also annoyed by media suggestions that they somehow betrayed the United States by failing to promote the May 17, 1983, Lebanese-Israeli troop withdrawal agreement.

Officials stress that the kingdom, although diplomatically skilled and able to disburse oil money, lacks military muscle and is essentially consensus-builder among the Arabs.

When it became clear the Syrians were adamant in opposing the May 17 agreement, Saudi Arabia would not endanger its own relations with Damascus in what, it is argued, would have been a futile bid to get the Syrians to change their minds.

Still, despite mutual recriminations, Saudi statements do not suggest a major re-appraisal of a 40-year-old alliance with the

United States which has, after all, endured strains before, not least during the 1973 Middle East war and Arab oil embargo.

There is some evidence, however, that the Saudis are diversifying away from the United States on defence, such as a recent deal worth about \$4 billion to obtain France's tracked Shabine anti-aircraft missile system.

But only U.S. firms are competing for another deal worth about the same amount to provide command and control back-up to four AWACS airborne early warning aircraft being bought from America.

Some 45,000 Americans live in the kingdom, including a contingent of the U.S. corps of engineers engaged in defence construction projects.

U.S. companies, such as the Bechtel Corporation, have been closely involved in the kingdom's development from pre-war pipeline laying through to the construction management of Riyadh's new \$3.2 billion airport.

The Saudi ambassador to Was-

hington, Prince Bandar Ibn Sultan, asked at a National Press Club lunch there how Americans would feel if the Saudis were driven to buy Soviet arms.

Soviet ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin later dined at the Saudi Embassy in Washington.

But Riyadh rushed out a statement to discourage speculation on a warm-up with the Soviet Union, stressing that Mr. Dobrynin was there only in his capacity as dean of the diplomatic corps.

The kingdom has no diplomatic relations with the "formally atheist" Soviet Union. Its official position continues to be that these will be considered "at the appropriate time."

Saudi sources give the impression that the royal family does not favour dramatic gestures and would prefer to press the Arabs' case before the bar of U.S. public opinion.

Weight is attached to last year's Washington appointment of the respected and eloquent Prince Bandar, a son of Defence Minister Prince Sultan and a nephew of

King Fahd.

The sources also suggest that any re-appraisal will await the U.S. election result and, of paramount importance, the debate on moving the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Saudi officials say they cannot believe any American administration would move the embassy and thus incur, as Prince Bandar put it, the hostility of "a billion Muslims."

Were it to happen, it would pose for the royal family possibly its most acute foreign policy dilemma of modern times.

The alliance between the Saudi royal family and the United States dates to World War II, before Israel was created and a time when most Arab countries remained under the hegemony of an ailing British empire.

As U.S. companies drilled for Saudi oil, a strategic deal was struck between the founder of the modern Saudi State, King Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud, and President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Mr. Roosevelt proclaimed the

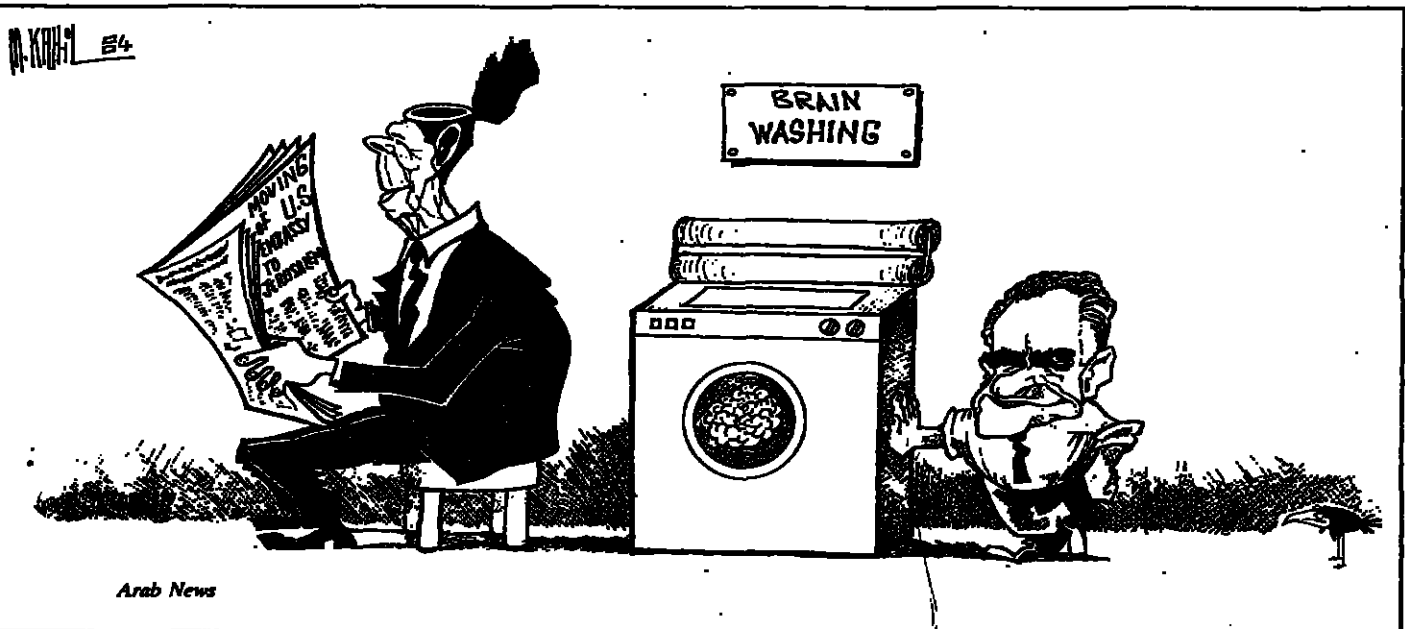
kingdom vital to the defence of the United States. Ibn Saud saw U.S. power as a guarantor of Saudi security, a perception still shared in Riyadh and lent new urgency by the dangers of an expanded Gulf war.

Yet the royal family, guardian of the Holy Sites at Mecca and Medina, also needs to maintain an older alliance made 200 years ago with the ulema (divines) of the fervent Wahhabi persuasion of Islam, still pre-eminent in Saudi Arabia.

That confers on the Saudi monarchy an acutely felt role in the destiny of Jerusalem, Islam's third holy city.

Diplomats said the ulema, with whom King Fahd confers each week, would hardly applaud a Saudi accommodation with Moscow at a time when Soviet troops are fighting Afghan Muslim insurgents.

But they would be no less horrified if the United States so far sanctioned Israel's presence in Jerusalem as to move the American Embassy there.



Hart's return shakes up presidential race

By David Nagy

Reuter

NEW YORK — Gary Hart's victory in the Ohio presidential primary adds up to big headaches for Walter Mondale, prolonged strife for the Democrats and a blessing for President Reagan.

Facing a do-or-die situation in the Democratic nomination fight, Colorado Sen. Hart beat former Vice-President Mondale in two out of four primaries Wednesday, including the grand prize of Ohio and a lesser but important contest in Indiana.

An exultant Hart proclaimed the race "wide open" once again — a boast that seemed exaggerated in view of Mr. Mondale's big lead in nominating convention delegates and a string of major wins from Illinois in March to Texas last Saturday.

Mr. Mondale won only in Maryland and North Carolina Wednesday night and could not conceal disappointment as he told supporters in a hoarse voice: "I know we're going to win the nomination."

The latest balloting raised the possibility that he may not sew up the nomination in the primaries and could affect the prospects of everyone now involved in the U.S. presidential contest — Sen. Hart, Mr. Mondale, Mr. Reagan and black Democrat Jesse Jackson.

For "new ideas" candidate

Hart, 47, the victory in Ohio, where Mr. Mondale was once heavily favoured, was just as important as the New Hampshire primary win that brought him to prominence and a brief reign as the Democratic front-runner last February.

He has been promising a dramatic comeback for weeks in the face of scepticism that grew with each Mondale triumph.

Last night, surrounded by well-wishers and bubbling over with laughter, he made the pledge that many Democratic Party leaders have been fearing — a fight all the way to party nominating convention in July, when he insisted he will win.

"Neither of us (he or Mondale) will have a majority after the last round of primaries on June 5," he said. "The balance will be made up by uncommitted delegates. They will decide which of us can best lead the party against Reagan."

For Mr. Mondale, 56, Wednesday's defeats represented a lost opportunity to end the battle now by convincing Sen. Hart that further struggle is pointless.

According to preliminary projections, Mr. Mondale did win a slight majority of the 368 delegates at stake in the four states Wednesday, but not nearly enough to ensure that he can win the nomination outright in the remaining primaries.

According to unofficial estimates, which could change slightly as tallies firm up, Mr. Mondale now has 1,507 of the 1,967 delegates he needs to win the nomination. Sen. Hart has 904, Mr. Jackson 285 and uncommitted 334.

That leaves the former vice-president in a classic situation of so close, but so far — 460 delegates short of the magic number with only 571 pledged delegates remaining to be chosen in the eight state ballots left in the 1984 primary season.

Most of the those states are in the Hart's native West. As of now, he is favoured to win the next match-ups on May 15 in Oregon and Nebraska as well as grand finale on June 5 in California, where 306 delegates will be at stake.

This suggests that Mr. Mondale may have to fall back on support from the uncommitted bloc, which is dominated by party leaders solidly in his camp. That should do it, but it would also take the battle into the convention and underscore criticism that he is the choice of the party bosses rather than the people.

For Mr. Jackson, 42, who scored well among blacks everywhere again Wednesday but got negligible white support, such a convention fight would increase his own leverage as a power broker demanding major party reforms in return for support.

For Mr. Reagan, 73, the oldest U.S. president, any prolonging of the Democratic fight is good news.

As he well remembers from his own bitter losing nomination battle against then-President Gerald Ford in 1976, and Jimmy Carter's struggle with Edward Kennedy in 1980, parties torn by long nomination fights tend to lose presidential elections.

Ironically, Mr. Reagan cleared the last technical barrier in his own unopposed renomination campaign just as the opposition race grew wilder. He officially gained a majority of Republican nominating delegates in that party's primaries Wednesday.

Besides Sen. Hart's revived challenge, there were other signs of trouble for Mr. Mondale in the latest balloting round.

Voter surveys by NBC News showed that many Democrats felt no one in their party could beat Mr. Reagan. That underlines general opinion poll findings that the president would win if the election were held now.

Mr. Mondale also was rejected by Democrats who believe that trade unions, his major power base, have grown too powerful, and he showed continued inability to attract independents, the young, the better-educated and affluent white-collar professionals.

Those groups favoured Sen. Hart almost everywhere.

E. German youngsters take springtime oath to defend socialism

By Paul Bolding

Reuter

EAST BERLIN — In flower-bedecked cinemas, theatres and halls throughout East Germany, youngsters are marking their transition to adulthood with a pledge of allegiance to their country.

By the end of May nearly all 14-year-olds will have taken the oath in front of proud parents, friends and relatives and vowed to work for the common good, friendship with the Soviet Union and to "defend socialism against any imperialist attack."

Some 224,000 youngsters or 97 per cent of those eligible will take part in the springtime "Jugendweihe" (youth dedication) ceremonies this year.

The oath is the high-point of a programme that includes music and readings from poetry and prose reflecting Communist priorities and values.

The Jugendweihe is a Communist and atheistic ceremony dating from the start of the century when it was devised as an alternative to religious confirmation. It was revived by East Germany in 1954 and a huge campaign mounted to persuade all youngsters to take part.

By 1958 some 45 per cent of youngsters took the oath and in 1960 the figure was up to 88 per cent.

Officially it was to be a non-sectarian ceremony compatible with membership of a church, but Protestant and Catholic bishops declared it incompatible with Christianity.

While the Protestant Church now tolerates the oath taking, Catholic bishops issued pastoral letters calling on Catholics to boycott the ceremony, saying those who took part knowing its atheist implications committed a sin against faith.

Participation is officially voluntary, but some zealous school heads, anxious to improve their standing by achieving 100 per cent compliance, exert huge pressure on wavering parents and children. The oath itself follows a series of 10 "youth lessons" that instruct participants in its meaning and help prepare them for lives as good socialists.

A class trip — only for those

who have agreed to take the oath — is included, usually to a memorial to victims of Nazi terror at a former concentration camp.

An official of the central committee for the Jugendweihe, Erhard Ruempel, told Reuters the lessons were an important experience for the youngsters. "It is not just moral teaching — naturally there are moral aspects — but youth really experiences something here."

"The oath is a recognition of their state, their society, and the youth lessons that precede it serve to make the meaning of the oath clear."

It was not a substitute for confirmation, he said, and participation was completely voluntary.

Even for the majority who enthusiastically join in the Jugendweihe, it can be a financial nightmare. Most of the 14-year-olds get lavish gifts and a new set of clothes for the occasion and a big party is held in a local bar or at home in the evening.

For the eighth grade at the sixth senior school in East Berlin's Marzahn district, a massive new high-rise settlement on the edge of the city, the venue for the Jugendweihe was a local cinema.

A professional wind orchestra and a study baritone entertained with music by Handel and stirring songs evoking proletarian patriotism and impending adulthood with titles like "our land is young just like our lives."

The nervous chatter as the youngsters waited to file into the filled auditorium belied excitement at the occasion, though a few looked bored or blasé about the affair. An orator, theatre manager Klaus Urban, told them they were about to be adopted into the great community of the working people and warned against striving for money and possessions.

He read the five paragraphs of the oath separately, beginning: "Are you ready, as young citizens of our German Democratic Republic, to work and struggle together with us, true to the constitution, for the great and honourable cause of socialism and to honour the revolutionary heritage of the people?"

"Yes, this we vow," they chanted in unison.

Canada finds another Klondike

Canada's biggest gold-rush in 50 years has transformed a once forgotten waste land into the site of a world-class mine comparable with those in South Africa. George Milling-Stanley, recently in Canada, reports.

FOR years Canadians virtually ignored the bleak countryside around the railway halt of Hemlo on Lake Superior's north shore. The level life of the land seemed the area's only advantage, making it suitable for routing the main Canadian Pacific railway line across the country and the Trans-Canada Highway.

Apart from its bleakness, the area is bitterly cold. The town of White River, just east of Hemlo, takes perverse pride in claiming the lowest temperature recorded in Canada—a breathtaking minus 72 degrees Fahrenheit.

Today, however, Hemlo is far from quiet, thanks mainly to Don McKinnon, the prospector who in 1980 made the discovery which started the biggest gold-rush in Canada since the finds at Yellowknife in the northwest territories 50 years ago.

The Hemlo gold deposits should ensure for many years to come that Canada retains its ranking of third in world gold production, behind only South Africa and the Soviet Union, with the area adding something over a quarter to Canada's present production of 68 tonnes a year.

McKinnon's interest in Hemlo was sparked off in the late 1960s,

when a casual conversation with an old prospector led him to seek out the records of a 17th century journey across that part of Canada by two French explorers in which they referred to showings of gold. His search through the archives culminated in his theory that previous prospectors had been looking for the wrong type of deposit.

A Canadian gold deposit typically consists of a series of tiny quartz veins wandering this way and that through quantities of barren host rock.

McKinnon's theory was borne out. The deposits turned out to be located in a wide band of rock lying between two other, non-goldbearing, strata. They are, in fact, more akin to the rich gold reefs of South Africa's Witwatersrand than to anything elsewhere in Canada.

The nature of the deposits was established in January 1981, when the little-known Vancouver exploration company International Corona Resources started to drill the area recommended by McKinnon.

In December 1979 McKinnon had started to stake claims in the Hemlo district. The mechanics of this process have not changed materially since the turn of the

century.

McKinnon hawked these claims, and his theory on the nature of the gold deposits, around the big mining groups in Toronto, hub of the eastern Canada financial establishment, but without success.

In the wake of scandals over speculative issues in the past, the Toronto Stock Exchange had brought in stricter regulations—too strict, according to some—and the junior exploration companies had packed their bags and fled to the more congenial climate of Vancouver.

Mr. McKinnon had little choice but to follow. He eventually struck a deal with Vancouver's most famous stock promoter, Murray ("The Pez") Pezim, for whom the description "flamboyant" might have been invented. Mr. Pezim used the previously dormant International Corona Resources as his vehicle for the Hemlo area.

Corona brought in the much larger Teck Corporation as its partner in the Hemlo property, with Teck paying C\$5 (US \$3.9) per share for 200,000 Corona shares. The C\$1 million Corona received went towards the cost of a feasibility study on the proposed mine, with Teck earning the right to acquire 55 per cent of the joint venture in return for financing the mine to production.

Initially some members of the Toronto mining establishment

regarded the deal with disdain, believing Teck had paid far too high a price in its eagerness to grab a piece of the Hemlo action. However, encouraging drilling results continued to flood in from Corona and later from Lac Minerals. Eventually the big Noranda Mines also took the plunge.

Noranda's deal, with Goliath Gold Mines and Golden Sceptre Resources, also involved an initial investment by the senior group in the juniors, at a substantial premium to the then market price, intended as compensation for previous spending on exploration.

What raised the eyebrows of the Toronto establishment was the money paid by Noranda, about C\$6 million, and the group's commitment to bringing a mine into production within only two years.

Noranda may be spending somewhere in excess of C\$200 million on Golden Giant, but the deposit's estimated seven million oz of gold at a grade comparable with all but the top three or four South African mines ensures its place as a world-class mine. The mine should come into production early next year, well ahead of the two others which are being constructed by Teck and Lac Minerals.

What is startling about Golden Giant, as Gil Leathley, a Scot who is Noranda's mine manager on the site, points out, is the planned eventual extraction rate—4,000

tons of ore a day. In Canada a typical gold mine would treat between 500 and 1,000 tons a day.

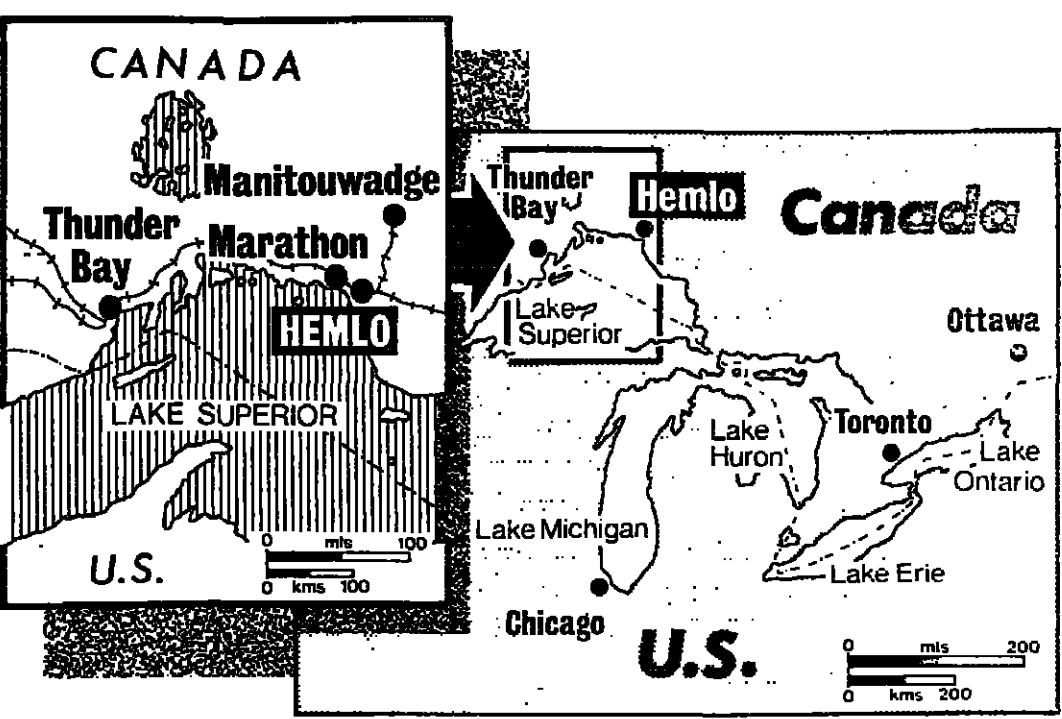
Both Noranda's Golden Giant and the Teck mine have their headframes in position—the structure which straddles the top of the shaft and houses the hoisting gear and storage bins for ore and waste rock. But where Teck has only just completed the installation of basic services such as power, Noranda has already built much of the processing plant.

In addition, Teck's shaft is at present only about 50 ft deep, while Noranda's is 400 ft down on the way to its target of 4,000 ft.

A loser in the Hemlo gold-rush is, in a sense, the Toronto Stock Exchange, which seems to have accepted the popular verdict that it was too well regulated to be able to play a significant part in the fund raising for a venture such as Hemlo at the outset. The exchange has recently started experimenting with a form of junior listing for the riskier enterprises.

The Vancouver Stock Exchange and Murray Pezim, by contrast, have grabbed plenty of headlines for their part in Hemlo's development. One of Pezim's latest moves is to use the capital-raising qualities of the Vancouver market to allow some members of his group of companies to fund other Canadian exploration projects—ironically, in partnership with Noranda.

The big winner, though, looks



likely to be Lac Minerals. Lac did not have to buy its way into Hemlo by doing a deal with one of the junior companies, but quietly picked up its huge acreage while nearly everyone else was dismissing the area's potential.

"All involved in Hemlo, however, face an additional uncertainty in the legal squabbling over ownership—which is not uncommon in big mining discoveries. Lac's chairman, Peter Allen, is sanguine: "Experience suggests that nothing will be allowed to stand in the way of the rapid exploitation of this world-class deposit." That implies that

the groups involved will find a compromise. A settlement may be harder to achieve with the other group claiming ownership of Hemlo—the Northern Superior Ojibwa Chiefs' Council, representing 2,000 Red Indians, who have announced their intention of taking their case to court.

However, there are no signs of panic among the mining companies. No one seems able to recall the last time the Indians won a battle on Canadian soil.

What, though, happened to the man who discovered Hemlo? No one knows what McKinnon made out of the discovery in financial terms. At last sighting, he was being feted as one of the stars of the annual convention of the Prospectors and Developers Association in Toronto. But amid all the admiration, he gave the impression of a man more at ease with rocks than people.

"A prospector gives his life to hunting for metals," he says. "He risks his very existence, snowshoeing through the wilderness, flying in planes with pilots who will try to land anywhere, once, and sitting in the fog beside lonely lakes and ice-floes hoping someone is going to come and look for him when it clears." — Financial Times news feature.

China exports 'stereo' fish-breeding

China has airlifted hundreds of thousands of carp to Libya and dozens of fish experts to Asian nations. It is exporting its fish-rearing technology, including the peculiar technique of "stereo fish-breeding".

By Chen Wei

PEKING — China, which has been breeding carp and other fish for centuries, is beginning to export this technology, old and new, to other Asian and even African nations.

Earlier this year 350,000 tiny fish of four carp species were airlifted to Libya. Fifteen Chinese experts had preceded them by one month to select sites for the fish, and they will stay for a year to advise on breeding techniques, feeding, and disease prevention and treatment.

Chinese techniques concentrate on cheap natural food for the fish in natural ponds and waterways, so the technology is suitable for developing countries.

A commune on the outskirts of Wuxi in eastern China has developed "stereo fish-breeding". "Stereo" literally means "in three dimensions", and the technique of

Helio People's Commune uses all the ecological dimensions of a pond to raise seven species of fish in the same body of water.

Silver and big head carp dine on plankton which floats on the top; below them grass carp eat the water weeds; black carp hunt for shellfish and molluscs on the bottom. The other three species—common and crucian carp and bream—eat leftovers, which prevents the decay of this material on the bottom and improves the quality of the water for all.

Common and crucian carp root around in the silt at the pond bottom, turning over the silt, speeding the decomposition of organic matter and enriching the water.

The peasants further enrich the fishes' diet with duckweed cultivated on the pond's surface and soybeans, pumpkin or sweet potatoes grown nearby, as well as with shellfish collected from rivers

and lakes.

This one commune annually harvests 500-1,000 kilograms of fish from each hectare of fishpond (450-890 lbs/acre).

Chinese peasants are actively raising fish in about 2 per cent of the nation's rice fields, and are harvesting 40,700 tonnes of fish a year. According to Professor Ni Dashu of the Institute of Aquaculture of China, this practice not only gives fish protein but can raise grain production by 10 per cent.

"Fish devour harmful insects, help free the paddies of weeds and loosen and fertilise the fields," he said, adding that some species also eat mosquito larvae.

In Shunde county in south China, peasants manage to combine fish breeding with silkworm breeding. Mulberry trees preferred by the worms are planted on the banks of the fishponds and the leaves are used to feed the fish. The silkworm droppings and chrysalis (pupae) are also excellent fish feed, and the pond silt is a good fertiliser for the trees. Fish, silkworms and trees nourish one another in a closed, man-made system.

tem.

The U.N. Development Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organisation asked China to establish a permanent fish breeding research and training centre near Wuxi, and the centre is already training would-be breeders from Asian and Pacific countries in the intricacies of pond management, artificial hatching, fish feed and use of fertilisers.

China began sending experts abroad as early as 1971, when Afghanistan wanted advice on raising fish in reservoirs. In the early 1980s a team of six Chinese went to work in Egypt and today several experts are based in Sri Lanka.

In many Asian nations freshwater fish provide a high proportion of national protein intake. In Indonesia, the rice fields produce about a quarter of the freshwater fish output, and fish provides two-thirds of the animal protein eaten. Fish accounts for about 80 per cent of the animal protein eaten in Bangladesh. Thus projects to improve freshwater fish yields can help improve national nutrition. — Earthscan feature.



A good catch: fish pond in Shunde county in South China. China now exports its successful fish-breeding technology to other Asian and African nations (China Features photo)

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Liverpool wins 3rd successive English league championship

LONDON (R) — The English first division soccer championship trophy, which leaves the Anfield display cabinet only when it needs dusting, will remain in the possession of Liverpool for another 12 months, at least.

The champagne, for which the Liverpool players have acquired a taste in recent seasons, can never have tasted better than it did Saturday afternoon when they won the tightest championship duel in years after a four goalless draw at relegated Notts County.

But with Manchester United and Southampton also drawing, that one precious point was enough to give Liverpool their third successive title triumph and their seventh in nine seasons.

Liverpool became only the third club to win the championship three times in a row, following Huddersfield town (1924-26) and Arsenal (1933-35).

Although they still have to round off their league programme, Liverpool, who have also won the Football League Cup this season, will now concentrate on their European Champions' Cup date with Roma in Rome on May 30.

Liverpool may feel obliged to send a bottle of their bubbly to

Tottenham's Scottish international striker Steve Archibald, whose 66th minute equaliser against Manchester United finally put the issue beyond doubt.

Archibald's goal cancelled out Norman Whiteside's 60th minute opener and left United to fight it out with Southampton, who drew 0-0 at Birmingham, for the runners-up spot.

Birmingham's failure to overcome Southampton plunged them into the second division with Notts County and Wolverhampton.

However, only Notts County will be missed, and the arrival of Sheffield Wednesday, Chelsea and Newcastle will give the first division a more glamorous look next season.

Sadly, Newcastle will not be taking Kevin Keegan back up with them. The former England captain played his last competitive match Saturday afternoon and celebrated his retirement in typ-

ical fashion by scoring his 28th goal of the season in the 3-1 home win over Brighton.

Liverpool would have won in fitting style but for the performance of County goalkeeper Mick Leonard who pulled off three breath-taking saves to deny Sammy Lee, John Wark and Kenny Dalglish.

But the best chance of the match fell to Welshman Ian Rush, whose 46 goals have been instrumental in Liverpool's success this season.

For once, however, Rush had left his shooting boots at home and, with the goal gaping and Leonard stranded helplessly, he sliced the ball wide of the post.

The huge Liverpool support did

not mind. They had travelled to Nottingham to salute their heroes and the fact they clinched the title in subdued manner did not dampen their enthusiasm.

It was also a memorable day for Liverpool's 62-year-old manager Joe Fagan, who took over from Bob Paisley at the start of the season.

Fagan has already lifted two trophies and there is the chance of another in Rome.

Scottish Champions Aberdeen, who had already clinched the Premier League title with a record haul of 57 points, appeared hungover from their recent celebrations when they rounded off their 36-match programme by losing 3-2 at St. Mirren.

Minister urges more youth activities

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Culture and Youth Abdullah 'Oweidat' said that youths belonging to clubs, which include the major part of the country's youths, should serve this country in accordance with organized programmes to be planned for the service of the environment and society. Speaking at a meeting with the heads of sport clubs and youth centres held Thursday at the Sport Palace, Dr. 'Oweidat' said this can be achieved in co-operation with municipalities and that work will be evaluated through highly qualified supervisors. He also pointed out that money prizes and encouragements will be allocated for winning teams, prizes such as team trips abroad were being discussed. Dr. 'Oweidat' added that the noticed tendencies are that these clubs are giving sport importance while these clubs have other duties towards society. Furthermore, the duty of these clubs, he said, is to promote a sense of loyalty and charity among Jordan's youth, and to put words into action. The sport leadership expressed a positive response to Dr. 'Oweidat's' suggestions and promised to comply with the recommendation.

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Soviet Olympics chief ready to listen to Samaranch

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Olympics chief Marat Gramov Saturday said he was ready for a dialogue on Moscow's decision to pull out of the Summer Games in Los Angeles but gave no indication that Moscow would reconsider its decision.

A senior international Olympics official, Mario Vazquez Rana, quoted Gramov as saying Moscow had many reasons for pulling out and had carefully thought about the move beforehand.

The Soviet sports chief promised he would meet International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Juan Antonio Samaranch to discuss the boycott and would also attend a meeting of world sports officials in Lausanne next Friday.

Vazquez Rana, President of the Association of National Olympic

Committee (NOC's), met Soviet NOC chief Gramov for two hours in Moscow Saturday to try to urge him to reverse the pullout.

As they were meeting Laos announced it would refuse to take part in the games, following similar announcements by East Germany, Bulgaria, Mongolia and Vietnam.

Czechoslovakia also Saturday announced it would not take part. In terms of medals won, Czechoslovakia came 13th at the 1980 Moscow Olympics with two gold, three silver and nine bronze.

Vazquez Rana told reporters after Saturday's Moscow talks: "I gave him (Gramov) a thousand reasons for taking part in the games but he also gave me very many reasons for not going."

Gramov said he was keen to hold talks with Samaranch to hear

his views on the issue, the Mexican sports official added. Gramov had not stated that the boycott decision was final but had also given no assurances that Moscow might reconsider it.

Samaranch has said he hopes to fly to Moscow in the coming days and hand Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko a letter from President Reagan offering guarantees for athletes' security.

He said he was pleased Gramov planned to attend the IOC meeting in Lausanne and it would be good for the Soviet sports chief to hear international Olympics officials there.

Western diplomats said Vazquez Rana appeared to have been given no sign that Moscow was prepared to negotiate its decision to pull out.

Unseeded Spaniard adds Vilas to victims list

HAMBURG, West Germany (R) — Unseeded Juan Aguilera of Spain added another big name to his list of victims as he beat Argentina's Guillermo Vilas to reach the final of the West German Tennis Open Saturday.

Aguilera, who beat reigning champion Yannick Noah of France Friday, won 7-6, 6-3 in a match lasting more than two hours.

In Sunday's final he meets Henrik Sundstrom, who beat fellow Swede Mats Wilander for the second successive time.

Aguilera, ranked 36th in the world, showed the cooler nerve on the big points, saving four set points in the opening set after Vilas served at 5-4 and 40-love.

He trailed 3-1 in the tie-break but pulled off five points in a row before taking it 7-4.

The Spaniard consistently baffled Vilas with a series of perfectly judged lobs when the Argentine came to the net.

Two lobs in the opening game of the second set helped him to break Vilas' service to love. Then Aguilera saved six break points on the next service for a two-love lead.

Vilas pulled back to 2-2 but the steady Spaniard broke again immediately and held on for victory.

Aguilera, a former pop group drummer who quit the game for two years as a teenager, won his first Grand Prix at Aix-en-Provence in France recently.

Sundstrom, the 10th seed, repeated his recent win over Wilander in the final of the Monte Carlo Open, breaking his compatriot's service seven times in a gruelling match played almost entirely from the baseline. The score was 6-2, 7-5.

Wilander won nine tournaments in 1983 but has still to lift a title this year.

It was the third time he has suffered at the hands of a fellow Swede in major events recently. Stefan Edberg beat him in last month's Grand Prix final in Milan.

Sundstrom, who was both steady and more aggressive than Wilander, said afterwards: "I'm very happy with my game this week. Everything seems to be working well."

Leonard survives knockdown, wins bout then quits boxing again

WORCESTER, Massachusetts (R) — Sugar Ray Leonard survived the first knockdown of his professional boxing career to win a 10-round fight unimpressively here Friday — and that convinced him his comeback after major eye surgery was a mistake.

In an unexpected announcement after stopping fellow American Kevin Howard in the ninth of 10 scheduled rounds, Leonard said he was again retiring this time for good.

"I'm announcing my retirement tonight," the 27-year-old former world welterweight and junior middleweight champion said after his first fight in 27 months following two eye operations.

Leonard added: "I had to find out for myself. And it just wasn't there. And if it wasn't there tonight, it never will be. There's no sense in fooling myself. So I'm retiring for good."

The ex-champion admitted he was concerned about his eyes. "I was apprehensive," said Leonard, who previously announced his retirement in November, 1982 after undergoing surgery two years ago,

for a partially detached retina on his left eye.

Leonard's apprehension showed, particularly in the early rounds, when he spent most of his time dancing around the ring. He appeared tentative during much of the bout as Howard, who was given little chance, carried the fight to the ex-champion.

Leonard fought in flurries. Though he scored with a number of his rapid-fire combinations, his timing was off and he missed far more punches than he landed.

The punch that signalled the end of Leonard's career was a right-hand lead by Howard midway through the fourth round. Leonard had landed a quick left-right-left combination to the body, when Howard caught him with a right that sent Leonard to the floor.

Leonard bounced up without a count. "I wasn't hurt," he said later. "It was more shock than anything else. I went back to my corner after the round and I knew it wasn't there. And the next three rounds, it wasn't there, either."

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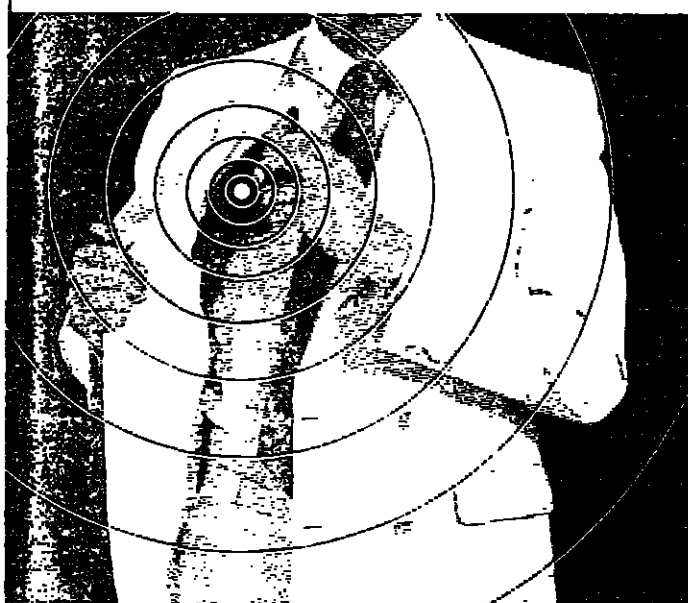
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Duarte says army will purge human rights abuses

SAN SALVADOR (R)—Jose Napoleon Duarte, due to become El Salvador's first freely elected president in 52 years, announced that the army had created a special commission to wipe out human rights abuses in its own ranks.

The 58-year-old president-elect told a press conference late Friday night after winning Sunday's run-off presidential poll that the army had set up a commission to study human rights abuse.

"They have already created a commission to look into these problems," said Mr. Duarte, a Christian Democrat. "It is they, not I, who will make the changes within the armed forces."

He reiterated a promise to create a special presidential commission to crack down on the notorious death squads and end human rights abuses by the country's security forces.

Mr. Duarte, the favoured candidate of the United States, was Friday officially declared the winner of last Sunday's run-off poll, collecting 53.59 per cent of the vote. His far-right opponent Mr. Roberto d'Aubuisson, who is alleged to have links with the rightist death squads, got 46.40 per cent.

The new president will take office on June 1.

Diplomats and government officials have said Mr. Duarte's victory will almost certainly lead to deeper American involvement in the four-year-old civil war between the U.S.-backed army and left-wing guerrillas that has claimed more than 42,000 lives.

The U.S. House of Representatives on Thursday approved a \$1.3-billion aid package for Central America.

Senior military officials have said the army plans a purge of

hard-line rightist officers including Col. Nicolas Carranza, head of the treasury police, who has been linked to the death squads.

Mr. Duarte announced Friday night that his Christian Democrats (PDC) had signed a pact with Democratic Action (AD), another moderate group, calling for the country's political parties to co-operate in order to "strengthen the new democracy."

In a reference to Mr. d'Aubuisson's National Republican Alliance (ARENA), which includes most of the country's powerful business leaders, Mr. Duarte said he would be willing to sign a similar pact with "members of the private initiative if they wish to enter the democratic scheme."

Mr. Duarte said, however, that ARENA leaders would receive no posts in his government.

Western diplomats say Mr. Duarte's ability to implement reforms will be severely limited by powerful forces including the parliament, dominated by a rightist coalition, the army and the business community.

Mr. Duarte's party won only four of the country's 14 provinces but his victory by a large margin in the capital allowed him to carry the election. Diplomatic sources said the close vote and differences in regional support reflected sharp divisions in the country.

Mr. d'Aubuisson, who had earlier claimed victory in the election, had not commented on the PDC

victory by late Friday. ARENA had 72 hours from the official announcement of the victory to claim fraud in the elections before Mr. Duarte was certified president, an elections official said.

ARENA has accused the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of working for a Duarte victory, an accusation dismissed by the Christian Democrats as ridiculous.

Rebels release hostages

Meanwhile, guerrillas Saturday released 73 people they had held hostage for nine hours in a supermarket after the government of El Salvador agreed to grant them safe conduct to Mexico.

The five guerrillas were escorted by the Red Cross to the Mexican embassy to await a flight to Mexico after being granted political asylum there, diplomatic sources said.

The three men and two women guerrillas, draped in white cloths to avoid identification, left pistols and automatic weapons in a Red Cross van before entering the embassy building.

The guerrillas, members of a rebel group fighting the U.S.-backed Salvadoran government, seized the store in the capital Friday night.

In a telephone interview with Reuters a rebel spokesman who identified himself as Moreno, a member of the Popular Liberation Forces (FPL) group, said the guerrillas had only intended to commandeer supplies but had been surprised by a police patrol while entering the building.

Police opened fire and three people were slightly injured as shoppers ran screaming for cover.



The Administrator-General for South West Africa, Dr. Willie Van Niekerk, offers his hand to shake to SWAPO Leader Sam Nujoma prior to the Namibia talks in Lusaka, Saturday (AP wirephoto).

Namibia talks under way in Lusaka

LUSAKA (R)—Talks on independence for Namibia (South West Africa) took a shaky step forward Saturday after a protracted wrangle over the delegation of the disputed territory's rebel movement SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organisation).

Shortly after midnight, eight hours after Zambia President Kenneth Kaunda opened what he termed "this historic meeting", the parties to the Namibia dispute began their first substantive private talks.

SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma said in a conference statement, later released to the press, that he was empowered there and then to sign a ceasefire with South Africa to end the 18-year bush war over the territory.

SWAPO has been fighting for the independence of Namibia, which South Africa rules in defiance of the United Nations.

"If your government is indeed genuine in wishing to find a peaceful solution to the Namibian question you will find committed partners in SWAPO and its allies in realising the early inde-

pendence of Namibia," he told the South African delegation to the talks.

South Africa has previously refused to sign a ceasefire with SWAPO, arguing that it has never declared war on the guerrillas.

The conference eventually got under way after SWAPO agreed to the withdrawal from its delegation of three delegates from an allied political party following objections from South African-backed parties.

"In the interests of Namibian independence the three volunteered to withdraw," the SWAPO representative at the United Nations, Theo-Ben Gurirab, told reporters.

SWAPO's climb-down followed complex and delicate consultations by Kaunda and South Africa's Administrator-General for Namibia, Willie Van Niekerk, the joint chairmen of the conference.

The squabble destroyed an air of cautious optimism that had preceded the Lusaka meeting, the first of its kind since all-party talks Namibia broke down in Geneva in 1981.

"It's a bad omen of what can be expected and indicates a lack of seriousness on the part of South Africa and its allies," said SWAPO spokesman Hideo Hamutenya.

The conference is attended by a four-man South African delegation headed by Dr. Van Niekerk, representatives from Namibia's Multi-Party Conference (MPC) grouping and SWAPO delegates.

SWAPO says the MPC is made up of stooges of South Africa.

The withdrawn SWAPO delegates are rebel members of the South West African National Union (SWANU), whose presence was objected to by SWANU President Moses Katjuangwa, head of the MPC group. SWAPO successfully fought a further challenge by the MPC to have a fourth alleged SWANU member withdrawn.

In Kaunda's opening speech which preceded the wrangling, the Zambian president noted the long-standing differences between SWAPO and the MPC and pleaded for reconciliation.

Pope says he would like to visit Soviet Union

ROME (R)—Pope John Paul, returning from a gruelling 10-day trip to Asia and the Pacific, said Saturday he would like to visit the Soviet Union.

After the Alitalia DC-10 that took him to South Korea, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and Thailand landed in Rome, the Pope flew by helicopter to the Vatican.

Speaking to reporters aboard the plane shortly before it landed, the Pope was asked if he would like to be able to visit the Soviet Union and China.

"Of course," the Pope said without hesitation. "The people of Russia are my brothers also. Like Polish people, they are also Slavs. I understand their language and it is very similar to my own language."

Asked if he thought it would ever be possible for him to make such a visit the pontiff said: "All is possible in the plans of providence."

The Pope did not mention

China in his response.

The Pope was firm in answering questions on the implications of an address he gave in Bangkok in which he said the international community should strive for a long-term solution that would allow Indochinese refugees to return to their native countries eventually.

"I did not accuse any power or any authority. I simply noted a fact and stressed that there was a moral aspect to it which has international dimensions. The problem must be resolved if our life in this world is to be human. The problem of refugees is a human problem," he said.

The pontiff said he was "very moved" by his visit to the Phanat Nikhom Refugee Camp in Thailand where he consoled some of the camp's 19,000 refugees from Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos who are in the final stages of being resettled in third countries.

Lottery fever sweeps New York

NEW YORK (R)—Long queues snaked out of shops and around corners as thousands of people bought tickets at the rate of a million an hour for the chance to win North America's largest lottery jackpot — \$18.5 million.

The dream of becoming a millionaire could come true Saturday night when the winning numbers are picked from a plastic bubble on a special television programme. For Kathy Grossi of New Jersey, the reason for waiting with about 75 other people on the queue two levels below Rockefeller Centre in midtown Manhattan was simple.

"I'm looking for the American dream which I haven't found yet. That's what everyone else is here for," said the 37-year-old financial analyst. "I'm tired of working all my life and getting nothing for it." She said she would use the money to move with her husband to a "quieter, more tranquil place." "I'd also give my family some," she said.

8 die in 'haunted house' fire

JACKSON TOWNSHIP, New Jersey (R)—At least eight people, most of them teenagers, died Friday night when fire engulfed the "haunted castle" at an amusement park, officials said. They were the first deaths in the 23-year history of the sprawling Great Adventure Park, the biggest in the northeastern United States. All of the victims were visitors and they were charred beyond recognition, said fire Captain William Mulligan. Seven other people were treated for smoke inhalation.

Capt. Mulligan said police were searching the ruins of the structure for more possible victims and probing the cause of the blaze. An arson squad was called to the scene. Eyewitnesses said the blaze erupted quickly and engulfed the 20 by 30 metre "castle", which burned out of control for about 90 minutes. About 8,000 people were evacuated from the park, which lies about halfway between Philadelphia and New York City.

2 thieves lose hands in Sudan

KHARTOUM (R)—A man who stole a taxi and another who stole parts from a truck had their right hands publicly amputated under Islamic Sharia Law here Friday. Seven such amputations have been carried out since the Sharia was imposed last September. An appeal court last week endorsed sentences on three men convicted of robbery who will each lose a foot and hand, the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) said.

AIDS test raises new question

BOSTON, Massachusetts (AP)—A blood test for AIDS is still months away, but already experts are agonising over what to tell people who show signs of the disease. And they're agonising over who else should share this information. The test will reveal which people have been infected with the suspected AIDS germ, a virus called HTLV-3. But it will not single out those who eventually will develop the disease, which attacks the body's immune system, or even those who still have the virus in their bodies. There is no known cure for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. The test probably will be sought by people who are at highest risk of getting AIDS, mainly male homosexuals, drug abusers, Haitians and people with hemophilia. The test will be performed on blood that is donated to blood banks. Any that shows signs of a past infection will be rejected to prevent the slim risk of spreading AIDS through transfusions. The problem arises in deciding what—if anything—to tell people whose blood has been rejected, for no one knows precisely what a positive result on the AIDS test will mean.

Rock star to get award from Reagan

WASHINGTON (R)—Rock star Michael Jackson will receive an award from President Reagan on Monday for his help in combating drunkenness among teenage drivers, the White House said. Jackson, one of the most popular rock stars ever with a long list of hits culminating in his latest "thriller" long play, will be given the Presidential Public Safety Communication Award.

Indian police seize arms in Punjab

NEW DELHI (R)—Police in the troubled north Indian state of Punjab seized arms from a truck in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar early Saturday, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said.

PTI quoted police as saying it was the biggest arms haul in their campaign against Sikh extremists, who are fighting for religious and political concessions for the state.

PTI said the police stopped the truck coming out of a place of worship shortly after midnight and found 20 hand grenades, 500 cartridges, four rifles, two carbines and a revolver.

Police did not identify the place

of worship, in order not to provoke communal reaction.

In Patiala, in southwest Punjab, police Friday night found three 12-bore guns, a rifle, a revolver and cartridges in the house of one of eight people arrested in connection with the murder of four people in a nearby village last month, PTI said.

A police sub-inspector was also among the eight, it added.

Harchand Singh Longowal, president of the main Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, has demanded an inquiry into the killing of two Sikh temple guards in a gunbattle with paramilitary troops

in Firozpur on Thursday.

Mr. Longowal met a delegation from Firozpur who accused the paramilitary Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) of indiscriminate firing, PTI said.

It said police fired in self-defence when attacked by the guards who had refused to pay their fares on a bus.

Mr. Longowal's demand comes after the government released more than 175 members of the Akali Dal from jail.

PTI said the move could pave the way for new talks with the government to find a solution to the 20-month Punjab crisis.

Bangladeshi leader bows to opposition

DHAKA (R)—Bangladesh's President Hossain Mohammad Ershad bowed Saturday to opposition demands for a parliamentary election ahead of any other polls as a major step towards returning the country to democracy.

He announced in a broadcast he had asked the election commission to hold elections to a 330-member parliament at a suitable date next winter.

He also pledged loyalty to the constitution he suspended after seizing power in a bloodless military coup in March, 1982, saying this was the only way he could restore democracy.

Gen. Ershad had earlier set May 27 as the date for presidential and parliamentary elections but abandoned his plans after talks with various political parties.

He said the date for a presidential election would be decided later after more talks between the government and the opposition, but it would not take

place before the parliamentary polls.

"We are aiming for a national consensus in every way, because we have no other options left," he said.

Gen. Ershad held talks with opposition parties following a series of anti-government protests in which at least 12 people were killed and 200 injured.

Two major alliances of 22 parties urged him to lift martial law, restore powers to the country's judiciary and hold parliamentary elections before any other polls. But they differed on the mechanism for restoring democracy.

Gen. Ershad said Saturday his two years of martial law rule was being phased out, paving the way for a civilian government.

"We are gradually relaxing martial law and taking it to a stage where you will have seen that it has totally disappeared when an elected government takes over," he said.

But he argued that martial law

could not be lifted until a successor government came into being. "That would leave us in a vacuum," he said.

"Our aim is to return steadily to a stable democracy. Such patriotism of the armed forces would be written in the history of the military rule with letters of gold," he said.

But he warned the opposition that his political concessions should not be misunderstood as weakness by the military government.

"We are already at the end of our tether. Please do not push us harder, because that may risk our very national existence," he said.

Gen. Ershad said he would allow open political activity and release prisoners to meet the demands of the opposition, although he said many prisoners they wanted freed were convicted on specific criminal charges by previous governments.

"We have taken this grave risk only for the sake of national understanding. I do not know how the future history will evaluate this decision," he said.

U.S. re-assures Indonesia on Reagan's China advances

JAKARTA (R)—U.S. Vice-President George Bush said Saturday he had assured Indonesia that improved American relations with China were aimed at world stability and would not harm Washington's ties with non-Communist South East Asia.

He told a press conference before leaving for India that President Suharto was very frank about his concern over China. Jakarta froze relations with Peking after an abortive Communist coup attempt in 1965.

Mr. Bush said his two-day visit was to assure Indonesia that "no reaching out and strengthening of another relationship is going to be done to the detriment of this great country."

He added: "It was worth the trip just to make that point."

President Reagan postponed a scheduled visit here last November. The postponement coupled with Mr. Reagan's recent visit to China left Jakarta with a feeling it had been snubbed in favour of Peking, according to diplomats.

Mr. Bush said he told Mr. Suharto: "Reagan sees improved relations with the People's Republic of China as a progressive step designed to bring the stability of the world."

Mr. Reagan was scheduled to visit Indonesia as part of a South East Asian tour. Officially, he called off the tour because of business in Congress but diplomats said it was because of turmoil in Manila.

Asked if he believed Mr. Suharto felt snubbed by the pos-



George Bush

tionement, Mr. Bush said, "snubbed is rather a strong word. I don't think snubbed. I think he was disappointed."

"I hope that wasn't the feeling. We put great importance on ASEAN and on Indonesia, Indonesia's very special role here."

Political observers say the United States views the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and particularly Indonesia as a bulwark against Communism in the region.

Mr. Bush said he made it clear his visit was no substitute for a presidential visit but said he believed his talk with Mr. Suharto, which went over its allocated time, accomplished much.

"If there were misunderstandings hopefully it removed any apprehensions that existed," he said. "As we leave today, I am confident relations between the United States and Indonesia are stronger than at any time."

Singapore unveils new election plan

SINGAPORE (R)—Singapore Saturday unveiled a new election plan for parliament, dominated by Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew's Peoples' Action Party (PAP), that will ensure a limited number of opposition members.

The plan will involve changing election laws to bring about a political system that PAP Organising Secretary and Defence Minister Goh Chok Tong said in the official party organ Petir would be unique in the world.

Mr. Goh, regarded as a potential candidate to succeed Mr. Lee, said the plan, still to be given final approval, was to satisfy a public desire for some opposition "to serve as a check on the government."

He said: "An opposition in parliament will also dispel, once and for all, the imagined belief that there could be any wrong doing or coverups by the government."

The PAP, which has ruled the island state of 2.5 million people since independence 20 years ago,

swept all general elections in the past. Opposition parties complained that they were given no room to grow while the giant PAP party machinery spread its influence throughout the society.

The PAP's record at the polls was broken only once when Workers' Party (WP) Leader J.B. Jeyaretnam, a practising lawyer, won an upset three years ago to gain a lone voice for the opposition in parliament.

Mr. Goh said under the new plan a limited number of parliamentary seats would be awarded to defeated candidates with the highest number of votes in the event of another clean sweep by the PAP.

He did not say how many seats would be set aside for the opposition, but added: "another feasible method could be to have a second separate ballot for opposition members only."

The government was also studying other options, he said with-

out giving details.

"Whatever the mechanics... Singapore's political system will be unique in the world," he added.

"It will be one where the people can have the best of both worlds—best MPs in government, and hopefully, best oppositionists."

But Mr. Jeyaretnam dismissed Mr. Goh's statement as election tactics and said: "It reflects government fears over the changing mood of Singapore voters."

"The whole thing is pathetic. Whether they like it or not there will be some opposition in parliament after the next elections. The PAP need not provide the opposition, the people of Singapore will do that."

Other opposition political parties echoed Mr. Jeyaretnam's views. But the opposition groups are weak and fragmented and none, including the WP, has the strength to mount a major challenge against the PAP.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠7J2 ♠K10953 ♠AQ762
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1 ♠ Pass
? What do you bid now?

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠K83 ♠AQ10 ♠AK9 ♠KJ87
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass Pass 2 ♠
? What action do you take?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AJ07 ♠AJ1065 ♠KJ65 ♠8
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South
1 ♠ 2 ♠ ?
What action do you take?

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AQ763 ♠6 ♠KQ874 ♠95
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AJ1062 ♠AQ6 ♠A5 ♠K83
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
3 NT Pass 4 NT Pass
? What action do you take?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠83 ♠9 ♠74 ♠KQ1096542
Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?

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